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HIGH SCHOOL

Angleton's Wyatt Neyland celebrates as teammate Wesley Jackson hauls in a game-tying two-point conversion during the Wildcats' state semifinal showdown with Smithson Valley. Both playmakers return this season, eager to prove that last year's remarkable run was no fluke.

Photo by Stephen Winters

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Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL

High School **PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

6A **QUENTIN GIBSON**

NORTH CROWLEY

WR | 5-9 | 165

2024 TEAM RECORD: 16-0

2024 STATS: 93 receptions, 2,009 receiving yards, 36 receiving touchdowns

2024 HONORS: 2024 MaxPreps National High School Football Player of the Year, Dallas-area single-season touchdowns record holder, Class 6A DI State Championship Game Offensive MVP, TSWA First-Team All-State

COLLEGE: Colorado

NOTES: Gibson entered 2024 with three college offers to Army, Illinois State and Prairie View A&M and ended it by breaking Jaxon Smith-Njigba's Dallas-area record for receiving touchdowns with 36. His 93 receptions almost tripled North Crowley's second-leading receiver (32), and his three touchdowns in a state championship rout against Austin Westlake tied a Class 6A record. After one of those scores, Gibson hit the Deion Shuffle in homage to his future coach at Colorado.



Photo Credit: Michael Horbowicz



Photo Credit: Jamary Brooks

4A **CARDEA COLLIER**

ALVARADO

QB | 6-5 | 200

2024 TEAM RECORD: 13-1

2024 STATS: 3,801 passing yards, 43 touchdowns, 12 INTs, 1,478 rushing yards, 32 rushing touchdowns

2024 HONORS: Dave Campbell's Class 4A Quarterback of the Year, Unanimous District 6-4A DI Unanimous MVP, Fort Worth Star Telegram Offensive Player of the Year

COLLEGE: Tarleton State

NOTES: Collier earned Dave Campbell's Texas Football Class 4A quarterback of the year after leading Alvarado to its best win total since 2011. The two-way star racked up 5,279 all-purpose yards and 75 touchdowns and won his second District MVP award in a unanimous vote. His best game was a 10-touchdown performance in a 71-50 win over Glen Rose. Tarleton State head coach Todd Whitten dubbed him arguably, "the most decorated high school signing that we've ever had."

5A **JAYDEN PALUSEO**

CORPUS CHRISTI FLOUR BLUFF

QB | 5-11 | 190

2024 TEAM RECORD: 12-2

2024 STATS: 4,183 passing yards, 56 touchdowns, 9 INTs, 543 rushing yards, 9 TD

2024 HONORS: Dave Campbell's Texas Football Class 5A QB of the Year, Built Ford Tough Class 5A Texas Player of the Year, District 15-5A DI Co-MVP

COLLEGE: UTRGV

NOTES: Paluseo heads off to UTRGV after rewriting the Corpus Christi Flour Bluff record book in three years as its starting quarterback. He led the Hornets to 31 wins and three district championships and broke his own program records with 4,183 passing yards and 56 touchdowns as a senior. His 144 passing touchdowns are the third most in Coastal Bend history and seventh overall in TXHSFB history. Paluseo will play football and baseball in college.



Photo Credit: Jonah Dyer

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Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

High School **PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**

3A **ADAM SCHOBEL**

COLUMBUS

QB | 6-5 | 200

2024 TEAM RECORD: 15-1

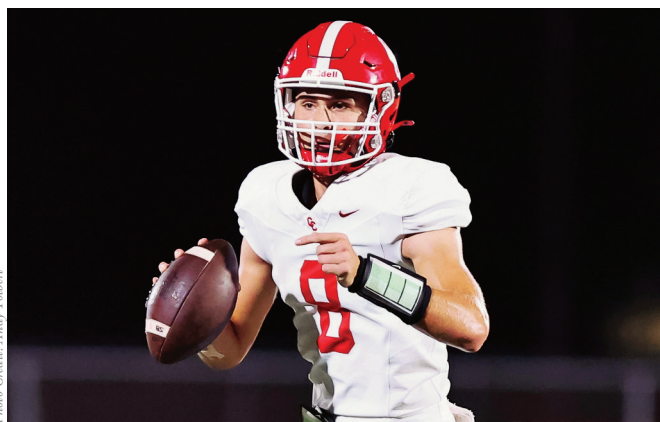
2024 STATS: 3,734 passing yards, 55 touchdowns, 3 INTs, 74% completion percentage

2024 HONORS: 2024 Mr. Texas Football, District 12-3A DI Co-MVP, Class 3A Division 1 State Championship Offensive MVP

COLLEGE: TCU

NOTES: Schobel led Columbus to its first state championship in the program's 98-year history and earned Offensive MVP honors in that game after leading five-straight first half touchdown drives. His 55 touchdown passes to just three interceptions demonstrated complete command of an offense that scored less than 40 points in a game just once (when it scored 37). Schobel enrolled at TCU, following in the footsteps of his father, Matt, and uncle, Aaron.

Photo Credit: Andy Talbert



1A **STRYKER REED**

GORDON

QB | 6-0 | 190

2024 TEAM RECORD: 15-0

2024 STATS: 52 rushing attempts, 1,076 rushing yards, 45 total touchdowns

2024 HONORS: Class 1A Division I State Championship Game Offensive MVP, District 13-1A DI Offensive MVP

COLLEGE: Rising senior

NOTES: Reed grew up watching his father, Mike, make state championship games with Rule and Throckmorton. Now, he's helped his father win back-to-back titles at his alma mater as one of the star players. The only thing stopping his stat line from popping like the rest of these award winners is the fact that Gordon won 12 games by mercy rule. Reed averaged 21 yards per carry and scored a touchdown 46% of the times he ran the ball.

Photo Credit: Mackenzie Duncan



2A **ARMANDO LUJAN**

SUNRAY

QB | 6-0 | 180

2024 TEAM RECORD: 12-1

2024 STATS: 3,463 passing yards, 34 touchdowns, 10 INTs, 526 rushing yards, 13 rushing touchdowns

2024 HONORS: UIL Record Holder for career passing yards and passing touchdowns, Dave Campbell's Texas Football Class 2A Player of the Year, District 1-2A D1 MVP

COLLEGE: Uncommitted

NOTES: Lujan became the Texas high school football record holder with 14,600 career passing yards and 231 passing touchdowns, leading Sunray to a 37-14 record over four years. The Bobcats, who had just one winning season as an 11-man program before Lujan, turned into an Air Raid offense and flew at least two rounds deep in the playoffs his last three seasons. Oh, and Lujan was also a starting cornerback on defense.

Photo Credit: James Michael Abel



Private **SAWYER ANDERSON**

PARISH EPISCOPAL

QB | 5-11 | 185

2024 TEAM RECORD: 9-5

2024 STATS: 5,134 passing yards, 49 touchdowns, 9 INTs, 432 rushing yards, 6 rushing touchdowns

2024 HONORS: Dallas-area record holder for career passing yards

COLLEGE: Arizona

NOTES: Anderson entered high school with a large name to live up to. His grandfather, Donny, was a running back for Stinnett and appeared on the 1965 edition of Dave Campbell's Texas Football with Texas Tech. But grandson carved his own legacy by breaking the Dallas-area record with 14,674 yards and 158 touchdowns over a standout four-year career at Dallas Parish Episcopal. Anderson went 43-10 as a starting quarterback and signed with Arizona.

Photo Credit: Ocean Garcia



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RECRUITING
HIGH SCHOOL

High School **TEAMS OF THE YEAR**

6A **NORTH CROWLEY PANTHERS**

Coach Ray Gates declared his Panthers "public school national champions" after dominating Austin Westlake 50-21 in the state championship. North Crowley toppled perennial powers Odessa Permian, Allen, Duncanville and Westlake to cap its first undefeated season in school history, snapping a 21-year championship drought for Fort Worth public schools. Nine players signed football scholarships on Early Signing Day, a Dallas-area best.



5A **ANGLETON WILDCATS**

The Cardiac Cats played seven consecutive one-score games and had three comeback wins in a storybook playoff run to the state semifinals. Angleton's defense, headlined by senior linebackers Raydin Garcia and Kaden Edwards, forced 34 takeaways in 15 games. Coach Jason Brittain said the Class of 2025's grit powered a 13-2 record, tied for the second-most wins in program history.

4A **KILGORE BULLDOGS**

Forged by the fire of a daunting district where three teams reached double-digit wins, Kilgore stormed to the state championship game for the first time since 2013. Junior quarterback Kayson Brooks piloting a high-flying offense, combined with coach Clint Fuller's defensive acumen, led to the Bulldogs routing teams by an average margin of 40 points per game in five playoff games.



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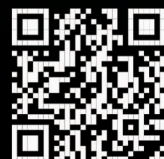
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HIGH SCHOOL
TEAMS OF THE YEAR



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High School **TEAMS OF THE YEAR**

3A **GUNTER TIGERS**

Gunter became the 20th program to complete the state championship three-peat. At first, the third time didn't seem like a charm. A brutal non-district slate handed Gunter its first losses in two seasons, but a resilient senior class willed them back to the state championship. Mitchell Gage's kickoff return touchdown to open the second half kickstarted a 28-0 shutout against Woodville.



2A **MUENSTER HORNETS**

Brady Carney lived out every Texas high school coach's dream by winning a state championship with his son. Casen, a junior quarterback, gained 318 total yards and four touchdowns in a 36-29 win over Shiner. Dad felt just as rewarded coaching all his son's friends since T-Ball to a ring, like Caden Klement, who made the critical third-down tackle to allow Carney's game-winning drive.



1A **WHITEFACE ANTELOPES**

Whiteface had just one winning season from 2009 to 2021, but coach Clint Linman knew his team was poised for a big year with 10 returning starters. The Antelopes reached their first state championship game in program history powered by the dynamic duo of Ethan Kauffman (3,136 rushing yards, 66 touchdowns; 82 tackles) and Jeremiah Rendon (1,222 rushing yards, 22 touchdowns; 77 tackles).



PVT **PASADENA FIRST BAPTIST**

Pasadena First Baptist avenged back-to-back TAPPS Six-Man Division I State Championship losses with a triumphant, cathartic 13-0 season. The Warriors scored 69 points per game behind Dylan Guillory and Liam Larsen's dynamic rushing tandem, finishing with a team total of 1,244 rushing yards and 28 touchdowns on 11.6 yards per carry. Quarterback Cole Larsen tossed 15 touchdowns to just two interceptions.



Where Legends Begin

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HIGH SCHOOL
TEAMS OF THE YEAR



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X7

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X0

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5



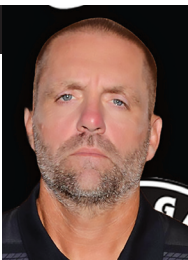
MADE
★ IN THE ★
USA

High School **COACHES OF THE YEAR**

6A **DREW SANDERS**

AUSTIN VANDEGRIFT

Sanders fielded many questions about if there was room for another elite Austin-area team when he started Vandegrift's program in 2009. The 2024 state championship win over Southlake Carroll kicked in the door on a club once reserved for Austin Westlake, Lake Travis and Cedar Park. A grueling offseason — after a shocking first-round playoff loss spoiled an undefeated season — powered Vandegrift from preseason No. 24 to loss season No. 1 despite just one Power Four signee (Daeshon Morgan).



1A **JOSH STANALAND**

JAYTON

Stanaland may not agree with this selection. Jayton alum Trey Richey, the only man to win a six-man state championship as a player and coach, advised him at the beginning of the season to not get in the way of his athletes. Nevertheless, Stanaland led Jaybirds to a 15-0 season and the first state championship since 1984, defeating Oakwood 54-8 behind his nephew Sean Stanaland's four total touchdowns and Colt Gentry's 73-yard fumble recovery touchdown.



5A **BRIAN RANDLE**

RICHMOND RANDLE

In 2021, Randle was named the inaugural football coach at the school named after his father, former Lamar CISD superintendent Dr. Thomas Randle. He began his tenure unloading all his weight room equipment off 18-wheelers in the middle of the summer. Last fall, the Lions won a state championship against a South Oak Cliff team that had played in more consecutive title games (four) than years Randle had been a varsity team (three).



Private **MIKE WHEELER**

DALLAS CHRISTIAN

Wheeler already had his name on Dallas Christian's stadium, but he further etched his name into program lore by completing the first four-peat championship run in school history, surpassing the historic 1985-87 run. Headlined by Syracuse signee quarterback Luke Carney (3,703 total yards, 41 touchdowns), the Chargers went 40-5 over four years. The final championship may have been Wheeler's best coaching job after replacing 11 college football signees from the 2023 team.



4A **BILL ELLIOTT**

CELINA

Elliott won seven state championships as an assistant coach at Celina under legendary predecessors G.A. Moore and Butch Ford. But his first title as a head coach snapped a drought since 2007 — and proved that the more Celina changes as the fastest growing city in America, the more he can keep the same results and standards. He may have the same core values as Moore and Ford, but his offense airs it out more with Bowe Bentley at QB.



3A **MATT SCHOBEL**

COLUMBUS

Schobel won a lot of football games as Columbus' star quarterback in the 1990s, but none compared to winning the first state championship in school history last fall. Schobel navigated his team through the tragic death of senior Aleks Medrano in October and knocked off a Malakoff program on a 31-game win streak in December. His son, senior quarterback Adam Schobel, earned 2024 Mr. Texas Football after orchestrating an offense that averaged more than 52 points per game.



2A **JOSH ERVIN**

GANADO

Ganado's 30-28 triple overtime victory over Stamford was the longest state championship game in UIL history. It was well worth the wait for a rabid fan base experiencing the first title in program history. Ervin, just 30 years old, broke a near 100-year drought and became one of the youngest coaches to win a state championship. He's compiled a 36-8 record in three seasons and has reached at least the regional semifinals every year.



Drew **SANDERS**

The only coach in Vandegrift history, Sanders led the Vipers to an historic first state championship in 2024, earning him 6A Coach of the Year honors.

Photo Credit: Natalie Chilton

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HIGH SCHOOL
COACHES OF THE YEAR

**CLASS 6A**

Brownsville Hanna running back Esteban Rodriguez breaks into the open field during the Golden Eagles' non-district clash with Edinburg. Rodriguez is one of 14 returning starters for Hanna, a team aiming to end a four-year playoff drought.

Photo by Frank Garcia

Class 6A Cover Boy **JOHN HEBERT**

STRAKE JESUIT'S LOWKEY SUPERSTAR

BY CARTER YATES

John Hebert went viral plenty of times last season when his 3,532 rushing yards led the state of Texas. After each video game-like performance, whether it be his 420 yards and five touchdowns on 15 yards per carry against George Ranch or 402 yards and six touchdowns against Katy Tompkins, a buddy would come to him Monday morning and hand over his iPhone.

Dude, they'd say, look at this TikTok they made about your game!

That's cool, Hebert would respond. I didn't know you could do that.

The 21st century doesn't produce kids like Hebert anymore. He's one of four Houston-area players to record over 3,000 rushing yards since 2000. He's also part of the five percent of United States teenagers who don't have a smartphone. His father, Jason, a headmaster at the all-boys Western Academy school in Houston, says his seven kids will each get a cell phone when needed. John has accepted that wanting to watch TikToks of himself doesn't count.

"As I've gotten older, I've come to realize there's a lot of people who just miss what's going on around them and aren't able to experience God's creation," John said.

His ability to make defenders miss has earned him offers to several Ivy League schools and military academies. But Strake Jesuit head coach Donovan Fikac says every college recruiter finds how humble Hebert is almost as impressive as his game. His father is an advocate for little technology use and big families. John knows he is only one of 11 players on the field because he lives daily as one of seven children.

"It's sort of like compulsory self-denial," said Jason, who's one of 11 children himself. "You have to learn how to share. You have to learn that you can't always be first. It's the natural way to learn to be a team player."

John and Coach Fikac credit the individual records to Strake Jesuit's team buy-in.

After a 3-8 finish in 2023, Fikac and offensive coordinator Billy Noonan switched the offense from spread to pro-style to highlight an offensive line with four players with at least two years of varsity experience. That meant the wide receivers had to flip their mindset from catching touchdowns to blocking for them. Strake Jesuit created a slogan - 'If you block,

you get the rock.' Looking back on his highlight tape, John can point to all the skill position players selling out for blocks that sprung each of his 40 total touchdowns.

Strake Jesuit reached the regional semifinals for the first time since 2019, but John and his fellow seniors are determined not to let that be a one-off. Fikac says the group is at the school from 6 a.m. lifting sessions until their self-organized after-school workouts end at 7:30 p.m.

"Strake (one of two private schools that competes in UIL) always sees themselves as the underdog," John said. "But the seniors and I want to start this mentality of, 'No, we're not the underdog anymore. We're the team to beat.'"

John's desire to make Strake Jesuit a better

team makes him a better individual player.

"I could be wrong, but my impression of the greats was that they didn't really care about their statistics," Jason said. "They cared about winning."

There is, however, one individual stat that Jason teases his son about. John's single-season rushing yard total is seventh all-time in Texas high school football history. In every Dave Campbell's magazine, Jason, who played at Klein High School and became an all-conference safety at Rice, is listed first for the longest interception return.

"He knows his accomplishment is infinitely better than what I've done," Jason said.

You just won't hear John say that.

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John **HEBERT**

The Houston Strake Jesuit back led the state with 3,532 yards rushing in 2024 — the seventh-highest single-season total in state history.

Photo courtesy Strake Jesuit Athletics

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

Class 6A STATE RANKINGS

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 SOUTHLAKE CARROLL Dragons were a year early last season; now they're right on time	15-1	10/9
2.	 NORTH CROWLEY Defending champs must reload offensively for a repeat	16-0	2/6
3.	 DUNCANVILLE The headliners are gone, but the Panthers have tons of talent	13-1	5/6
4.	 AUSTIN WESTLAKE Savvy QB Rees Wise and a relentless defense lead the charge	14-2	7/6
5.	 GALENA PARK NORTH SHORE Is the Mustangs' era of dominance waning? Or do they roll on?	14-1	4/4
6.	 AUSTIN VANDEGRIFT After a remarkable title run, Vipers ready to repeat	15-1	8/4
7.	 ALLEN They're back.	13-1	7/7
8.	 KATY Few teams are better coached than the Tigers	11-2	5/8
9.	 LAKE TRAVIS Trench play could make these Cavs truly special	12-2	6/5
10.	 DESOTO Back to basics: expect a dynamic running game from the Eagles	11-3	5/5
11.	 HUMBLE SUMMER CREEK After coming close, Bulldogs have eyes on the prize	12-3	7/5
12.	 FORT BEND RIDGE POINT Perhaps the most prospect-loaded team in all of TXHSFB	10-2	7/6
13.	 HUMBLE ATASCOCITA Can the defense hold up while the young offense develops?	12-2	3/7
14.	 EULESS TRINITY You know what to expect: size, physicality and toughness	11-2	7/7
15.	 DENTON GUYER If the Wildcats can find a QB, they're a contender	10-4	3/7
16.	 DICKINSON There's tons of skill talent for this group of Gators	7-4	5/6
17.	 LONGVIEW Coach John King won't like being ranked this high, but the Lobos are legit	12-3	3/6
18.	 PEARLAND The Oilers' offensive and defensive lines are special	9-3	6/7
19.	 THE WOODLANDS Can weaponry develop around QB Jack Daulton?	11-2	4/8
20.	 CIBOLA STEELE The best 6A team in San Antonio must find some playmakers	11-2	2/5
21.	 WAXAHACHIE Battle-tested in District 11-6A, the Indians are dangerous	9-4	4/5
22.	 PROSPER Experience abounds for the Eagles, who could soar	8-3	7/9
23.	 SAN ANTONIO BRENNAN This team is fast as all get-out, but must find depth	10-2	5/6
24.	 BRIDGELAND Here's a promise: the Bears are going to score in bunches	12-2	7/3
25.	 CY RANCH The Mustangs got better every week last year	8-4	8/4

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
26.	 COPPELL After a special 2024, the Cowboys have holes to fill	12-1	2/3
27.	 ALVIN SHADOW CREEK Sharks want to shake off last year's disappointing finish	9-2	6/6
28.	 ROCKWALL Expect the defense to take a solid step forward	6-6	4/4
29.	 SAN ANTONIO HARLAN Fresh off a regional final run, the Hawks have the goods	12-2	5/6
30.	 SAN ANTONIO JOHNSON There's tons of experience here; can it come together?	10-2	6/9
31.	 WILLIS If you like Travis Hunter, you'll love Jermaine Bishop	12-1	4/5
32.	 LEWISVILLE Last year's young Farmers are all grown up now	7-4	7/7
33.	 SPRING WESTFIELD The Mustangs are a quarterback away from being a threat	8-3	7/7
34.	 NORTH FORNEY Marcus Shavers' ballclub is going to surprise some folks	8-4	8/8
35.	 KLEIN CAIN Experience is thin, but the Hurricanes' culture is special	9-2	5/2
36.	 TOMBALL The Cougars have run off 37 wins in the last four years	10-2	6/5
37.	 DRIPPING SPRINGS The only team to beat Vandegrift last year must rebuild the lines	8-4	6/6
38.	 WYLIE EAST Keep an eye on the Raiders' explosive receiver corps	10-2	7/5
39.	 KATY JORDAN The Warriors have upped their win total every year since inception	11-2	5/6
40.	 MIDLAND LEGACY The best 6A team in West Texas? Rebs are back.	6-6	7/8
41.	 FORT BEND HIGHTOWER The offensive line will lead the way; can the defense jell?	9-2	7/2
42.	 KLEIN COLLINS Expect the Tigers to capitalize on last year's strong finish	7-6	6/7
43.	 WOLFFORTH FRENSHIP With a new school coming, the time to strike is now for Frenship	10-2	4/7
44.	 ROCKWALL-HEATH The Hawks took their lumps in '24; they're out for revenge in '25	4-6	9/8
45.	 CROWLEY Unlike last year, Carlos Lynn's Eagles won't sneak up on anyone	8-5	6/8
46.	 FULSHEAR New coach Stephen Hill should keep the fireworks firing	12-1	7/3
47.	 CY FALLS Falls will be small-ish, but will make up for it in speed	9-3	5/3
48.	 HARKER HEIGHTS Coming off a district title, the Knights have lots of weapons	8-3	8/5
49.	 BYRON NELSON The Bobcats' versatility is impressive, including two-way stars	8-3	3/6
50.	 HEBRON Hawks have the makings of a sleeper; just need a QB	8-5	9/5

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

DAVE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

Class 6A **PREVIEW**

IS 2024'S NEW BLOOD THE NEW NORMAL?

BY GREG TEPPER

If you showed up at AT&T Stadium on the final day of the Texas high school football season last December and thought, "Wait, who are *these* guys?" — don't worry: you're not alone.

Class 6A — the largest and usually the steady-state classification in the UIL — got a truly seismic jolt in 2024. Gone were the mainstays; in came the newcomers. In fact, when North Crowley beat Austin Westlake for the Division I title and Austin Vandegrift toppled Southlake Carroll to claim the Division II crown, it marked the first time since 2018 that we had complete turnover from year to year in 6A — four new finalists, two new champions.

Which brings us to the animating question of the 2025 season: should we expect this kind of movement every year? Or will powers — new or longtime — return consistently to the top?

It's only fair that we begin our tour of Class 6A with the state's finest team from a year ago. North Crowley's remarkable 16-0 run placed Ray Gates' Panthers in the pantheon of great champions, but now there's replacing to do. Fourteen starters are gone — including eight who signed with FBS programs — as is offensive coordinator Eli Reinhart, who departed to become head coach at Hutto. Even with that turnover, the talent that remains should keep them in the Division I favorite conversation.

The Panthers start ranked just behind Texas Football's preseason No. 1 team, Southlake Carroll. There's a case to be made that the Dragons' run to the title game was a year early, as Riley Dodge's squad returns a whopping 19 starters, including quarterback Angelo Renda, receiver Brock Boyd, and running back Davis Penn.

Elsewhere in Region I, Lee Wiginton has Allen on the cusp of a return to glory with an elite defense led by linebacker Ja'Prei Wafer and cornerback Kai Wheaton. Eules Trinity's familiar formula of hard-charging running has a new face in star back JT Harris. And District 5-6A figures to be a slugfest, with Denton Guyer, Coppell, Lewisville, and Hebron all starting the year in the Top 50.

It's a familiar look at the top of Region II — though they were conspicuously absent from the title stage last year. Duncanville loses the world-class pass-catch duo of Keelon Russell and Dakorien Moore, but Reginald Samples' Panthers are hardly starved for talent, especially up front on defense with ends KJ Ford and Landon Barnes. District bunkmate DeSoto will have speed to burn with receiver Ethan Feaster and running back My-

son Johnson-Cook; the question is whether their young defense can return to championship form.

Region II is also home to state semifinalist Longview, which must reload on the offensive line, and The Woodlands, which will look for playmakers around star quarterback Jack Daulton.

Can Houston make it back to the big stage after suffering its first 6A title game shutout since 2002? The depth is there — seven teams in Region III start in the Top 18 — with Galena Park North Shore leading the charge. Kaleb Maryland is the undisputed QB1 for the Mustangs, but there's reloading to do. District 23-6A rivals Humble Summer Creek and Atascocita won't make it easy, though both must replace their key playmakers.

Katy will be right back in the mix, per usual. Coach Gary Joseph's defense, led by linebacker Jeremiah Smith, should be dominant. But if you're looking for a Region III team to dream on, look toward Fort Bend Ridge Point — the Panthers boast an astonishing 15 players with Division I college offers, most notably on the

offensive line.

Can the good times keep rolling for the suddenly resurgent Region IV? The Austin area is in a boom period, led by reigning Division II state champion Vandegrift. Coach Drew Sanders welcomes back breakout quarterback Miles Teodecki and a talented supporting cast, but most of all: the Vipers now know what it takes to reach the mountaintop. They've just got to do it again.

Austin Westlake has eyes on a return to the top as well after coming up short in the Division I title game. Quarterback Rees Wise is in complete command of the Chaps' offense, and coach Tony Salazar's defense — anchored up front by Maddox Flynt — will make them a short-list contender. The same could be said for archrival Lake Travis, which boasts plenty of talent in the trenches but must find a quarterback.

The San Antonio area looks deeper than in past years — Cibolo Steele, Brennan, Harlan, and Johnson all start the year ranked, though it feels like you could put them in any order. Steele graduated heavily, especially at the skill spots, but holds the pedigree advantage.



Miles **TEODECKI**

After leading Vandegrift to its first state championship, the Vipers' signal-caller is out to show they're a mainstay at the top of Class 6A.

Photo by Natalie Chilton

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Where Legends Begin

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A



**Brock
Boyd**

SOUTHLAKE CARROLL
WR

Photo Credit: Rodney Walters



**Chase
Calicut**

NORTH SHORE
DB

Photo Credit: Jace Rodin

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

*Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 6A?
Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB*



New Braunfels Canyon RB **JACKSON REGAN** ran for 1,860 yards and 24 scores in 2024, and coach Sean McAuliffe says he'll be even better as a senior.

Photo Credit: David J. Campos



Alief Elsik QB **KADEN MENDENHALL** ticks every box: size (6-4), experience (three-year starter), football IQ, and numbers (2,502 total yards, 26 TDs in 2024).

Photo Credit: Paul Pruitt

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 6A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

QB Miles Teodecki, Austin Vandegrift
RB John Hebert, Houston Strake Jesuit
RB Jonathan Hatton, Cibola Steele
WR Brock Boyd, Southlake Carroll
WR Ethan Feaster, DeSoto
WR Chase Campbell, Wolfforth Frenship
OL Avery Morcho, Fort Bend Ridge Point
OL Pupungatao Katoa, Euless Trinity
OL Drew Evers, Flower Mound
OL John Turntine III, North Crowley
OL Zaden Krempin, Prosper
UTIL Jermaine Bishop, Willis
K Cameron Allen, Hebron

Defense

DL KJ Ford, Duncanville
DL Maddox Flynt, Austin Westlake
DL Jamarion Carlton, Temple
DL Carter Buck, Lake Travis
LB Braylon Williams, Arlington Lamar
LB Kosi Okpala, Katy Mayde Creek
LB Calvin Thomas, Cy Ranch
DB Lebron Bauer, Allen
DB Carter Stewart, Alvin Shadow Creek
DB Chace Calicut, Galena Park North Shore
DB William Chen, Southlake Carroll
UTIL Davis Kenney, Fort Bend Travis
P Ethan Guillen, Waxahachie



**Tony
Salazar**

**AUSTIN
WESTLAKE**

Photo Credit: John Gutierrez

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 6A, the top four teams in each district make the playoffs. The two largest schools go to the Division I bracket; the two smaller schools go to the Division II bracket.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: North Crowley over Allen
Region II: Duncanville over Waxahachie
Region III: North Shore over Atascocita
Region IV: Lake Travis over San Antonio Johnson

DIVISION II

Region I: Southlake Carroll over Denton Guyer
Region II: DeSoto over Longview
Region III: Summer Creek over Shadow Creek
Region IV: Westlake over Vandegrift

STATE CHAMP: NORTH CROWLEY

The road is tough and there are holes to fill, but the Panthers have the talent, the coaching and the pedigree to go back-to-back.

STATE CHAMP: SOUTHLAKE CARROLL

A year older and a year wiser from last year's close call, the Dragons bring home their first championship since 2011.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 1-6A

Out in El Paso, this gives a new meaning to the term "Wild West", with six teams with a legit shot at the district title.

DISTRICT 12-6A

Big-time talent. New coaches at Temple and Copperas Cove. Upsets galore. It's maybe the most chaotic district in Texas.

DISTRICT 30-6A

Nobody finished district unbeaten last year, and these Laredo and Eagle Pass schools (plus Medina Valley) get after it.

Class 6A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

ODESSA PERMIAN

A young MOJO squad took its lumps last season, but the Panthers are ready to fight back in the Little SWC.

KINGWOOD

The name of the game for the Mustangs is defense, led by junior linebacker Cade Haug.

FORNEY

With superstar running back Javian Osborne back in the fold, the Jackrabbits are explosive.

LOS FRESNOS

Coming off their first 10-win season since 2014, the Falcons have a sturdy core ready to compete.

DISTRICT 1-6A Preview

CORONADO THUNDERBIRDS

Coach: Mike Pry. Lettermen R/L: 25/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-4/2-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Ben Wilson (6-1, 190, 4.5), DB Norman Montion (5-10, 175, 4.7), QB West Stansbury (6-3, 240), LB Sebastian Jaurrieta (6-0, 205), LB Thibaut Spilliaert (5-10, 195), WR Cole Randgag (6-2, 200). Top juniors: WR CJ Frescas (5-8, 150), DE John Baniak (6-2, 205). Top sophomore: ATH Chase Golding (6-1, 180).

Other prospects: OL Jadon Dorman, ATH Christian Frias, LB Robert Serrano, DB Bryce Rystad, OL Francisco Zamora, DE Derrick Jimmerson, WR Reece Roberts, K Sebastian Ruiz.

2025 notes: It's been a slow build in west El Paso under Mike Pry, but he believes 2025 is the year the T-Birds are able to return to the playoffs. ATH Wilson accounted for nearly 2,000 yards a year ago playing QB, but could move back to WR with the emergence of talented sophomore QB Stansbury, who has legendary bloodlines in the Sun City. Coronado will have a talented stable of pass catchers with Randgag, Frescas and talented sophomores Golding and Roberts. DB Montion (76 tackles) is always around the ball and may see time at RB, while LBs Jaurrieta and Spilliaert are back to anchor what expects to be an improved defensive unit. Pry says the biggest concern heading into the fall is inexperience on the offensive line.

EASTLAKE FALCONS

Coach: Ruben Rodriguez. Lettermen R/L: 31/27. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Andrew Flanagan (6-2, 290), ATH Junior Trotman (5-11, 180, 4.6), OL Jacob Negron (5-11, 245, 4.9), DL Ezekiel Cisneros (5-10, 245, 4.9), ATH Ethan Rivera (5-9, 170, 4.5), DB Riley Estrada (5-8, 175, 4.6), RB Josue Herrera (5-10, 215, 4.6), WR Jordan Reveles (6-4, 190, 4.6), OL Alejandro Aguilar (6-4, 290), ATH Noah Morales.

2025 notes: After running the table in 1-6A play a year ago, Eastlake will look for a repeat run with a lot of new faces needing to take on key roles. ATH Trotman (53-636, 7 TDs receiving) is a versatile playmaker who will see more time on defense this year. ATH Rivera (19-402, 3 TDs receiving) is also back for the Falcons. Junior RB Herrera (257 yards, 2 TDs rushing) is a big and powerful back who will pace the ground game. Defensively, the staff loves the playmakers they have back on the defensive line, led by junior DL Flanagan (51 tackles, 4 sacks) and senior DL Cisneros (42 tackles). The biggest question marks will be replacing four of five starters on the offensive line and inexperience at the QB spot.

EASTWOOD TROOPERS

Coach: Julio Lopez. Lettermen R/L: 29/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jude Walker (5-11, 175, 4.5), QB Kingston Jeffries (5-9, 150, 4.5), RB Matthew Ramirez (5-8, 160, 4.5), LB Andrew Cintron (5-10, 195, 4.7), RB Nathan Chavira (5-8, 180, 4.7), WR/LB Andrew Jackson (6-0, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Lyam Araujo (5-8, 150, 4.6), LB Zac Adams (5-10, 220, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jordan Nava (5-8, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Matthew Yarbrough (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Logan Bedwell, WR/DB Noah Williams, DL Joaquin Tagle, OL Jaden Quintana, OL Miguel Cabada, OL Steven Lazarin, WR Aidan Manhart.

2025 notes: The Troopers were hammered with injuries a year ago and missed the playoffs for the first time since 2017. The good news is a lot of young guys got reps and the future is bright with help from a 7-1-1 JV team coming up. ATH Walker (56-804, 8 TDs receiving) scored touchdowns receiving, rushing, passing, on kick return and defense a year ago, "He can do it all," said Lopez. Junior QB Jeffries (506 yards, 6 TDs passing) started the last two games a year ago and will step into the lead role in the Troop's spread offense full-time. LB Cintron (47 tackles) is a physical leader on defense and will team with junior LB Adams (25 tackles). "We are talented but still inexperienced, so we'll need to grow up in a hurry," said Lopez.

FRANKLIN COUGARS

Coach: Ruben Torres. Lettermen R/L: 17/34. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Justin Morales (6-4, 265), RB Ernie Powers (5-11, 185, 4.5), LB Jose Bondoni-Guzman (6-2, 215, 4.8), WR/DB Santiago Perez (5-11, 170, 4.7), LB Adonis Bustillos (5-11, 195, 4.8), LB Stone Jessup (5-11, 170, 4.9). Top juniors: TE/DL Dante Acosta (6-4, 225, 4.9), OL/DL Anthony Meraz (6-0, 265). Top sophomore: WR/DB Tyson McDavitt (5-10, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB Areyu DeLaRiva, OL Martin Contreras, DL Gabriel Guzman, OL Eric Sandoval, QB Lucas Garza, OL Sergio Barraza, OL Julio Macias, WR/DB Rhet Packer.

2025 notes: New coach Torres, who recently led Marlin to statewide contention, takes over. The offense returns a wealth of experience led by dynamic RB Powers (2,224 yards, 23 TDs rushing). He'll operate behind a big and physical offensive line anchored by Morales. Junior WR/DB Perez (948 yards, 5 TDs all-

District 1-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Ben Wilson, El Paso Coronado

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Andrew Flanagan, El Paso Eastlake

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. El Paso Coronado (2,361.5)
2. El Paso Eastlake (2,946)
3. El Paso Eastwood (2,412)
4. El Paso Franklin (3,057)

5. El Paso Montwood (2,579.5)
6. El Paso Pebble Hills (2,931.5)
7. El Paso Socorro (2,557)

purpose; 1 INT) will be a playmaker on the outside after a strong sophomore debut. The defense revolves around a trio of outstanding LBs in Bondoni-Guzman (115 tackles, 1 sack, 1 INT), Bustillos (87 tackles, 3 sacks) and Jessup (91 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 INT). The biggest concerns will be youth at WR and adapting to the new schemes that will be implemented.

MONTWOOD RAMS

Coach: Ivan Rangel. Lettermen R/L: 30/28. Starters returning O/D: 9/4. 2024: 3-7 DII bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Damian Briano (5-10, 160, 4.8), LB Joseph Schwantner (5-9, 170, 4.9), WR Adrian Cortinas (5-10, 160, 4.7), RB Timothy Rosales (5-10, 175, 4.8), OL Deshaun King (5-9, 265), OL Joel Moreno (6-2, 320). Top juniors: RB/DB Gene Palmer (5-9, 160, 4.7), DB Andy Quintana (5-6, 145, 4.7). Top sophomore: DL Diego Haros (5-11, 190).

Other prospects: WR Miguel Esqueda, TE Devin McMahon, LB Jayden Rodriguez, DB Nicolas Villalpando, DB Mateo Sianez, DL Cameron Dominguez, WR Damian Saiz, RB/LB Jaquan Spencer.

2025 notes: The Rams have the ability to challenge in 1-6A. QB Briano (1,923 yards, 21 TDs passing, 461 yards, 8 TDs rushing) is back to lead what is traditionally an explosive offensive attack. WR Cortinas (40-515, 6 TDs receiving) will be the primary target, while RB Rosales (466 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 27-366, 3 TDs receiving) gives Montwood balance. LB Schwantner (130 tackles, 1 INT) is an athletic and instinctive player who always finds himself around the ball. Rangel says defensive inexperience and a lack of depth are the biggest concerns going into 2025.

PEBBLE HILLS SPARTANS

Coach: Ryan Warner. Lettermen R/L: 27/24. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Jean Parra (6-3, 255), ATH Anthony Vasquez (5-9, 170), LB Matthew Ortega (5-10, 170), QB Joe Fernandez (6-1, 180), OL Arturo Ortiz (6-1, 285), WR Malik Moore (6-1, 175). Top juniors: CB Daveon Sullivan (5-10, 165), TE Gianni Ponce (6-3, 190). Top sophomore: WR/LB Jamie Ortega (5-11, 190).

Other prospects: OL Christian Reyes, OL Anthony Ascencio, WR Julian Vasquez, RB Khalib Price, CB Jonathan Martinez, DT Edwin Hutchins, DT Jaden Frazier, S Julius Castro.

2025 notes: Defense is where the Spartans will earn their money with the return of DL Parra (86 tackles, 10 TFL, 7 sacks) and LB Ortega (61 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks). ATH Vasquez (101 tackles, 2 INTs) will be a contributor in all three phases after a standout junior season. The offense has question marks with a young group at WR and they must replace a productive RB, but the return of junior QB Fernandez (1,181 yards, 14 TDs passing; 347 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a great place to start. OL Ortiz will be the leader of a veteran group up front.

SOCORRO BULLDOGS

Coach: Edward Cano. Lettermen R/L: 16/15. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: LB Prince Vital, QB Antonio Montes, OL Roman Gonzalez, DB Ruben Huerta, RB Antonio Trivizo, WR Devin Hernandez, QB Isaac Anaya, DL Xavier Bell, WR/DB Alex Gallardo, WR/S Julian Hernandez.

2025 notes: LB Vital (94 tackles, 3 sacks) and DB Huerta (5 INTs) are key playmakers back for what Cano says should be an improved defense. The offensive line will be the strong point for the offense with the return of OL Gonzalez as the anchor in the middle. The offense will need to limit turnovers and control the tempo to limit the time the defense is on the field, and QB Montes and RB Trivizo will be key to those efforts. "We have more stability in the program and our players have high expectations for each other," said Cano.



Damian
BRIANO
QB
El Paso Montwood



Mason
VAN SICKLE
LB
San Angelo
Central



Antavvious
ELLIS
WR
Crowley



Angelo
REDA
QB
Southlake
Carroll

DC
TX

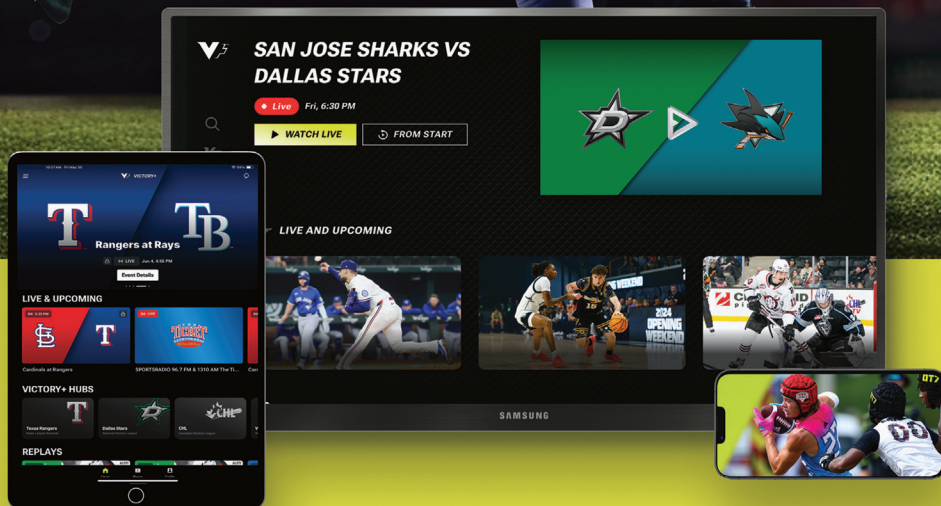
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CLASS 6A

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DISTRICT 2-6A Preview

CENTRAL BOBCATS

Coach: Mark Smith. Lettermen R/L: 35/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Mason Van Sickle (6-1, 205), WR Jimmy Edwards (5-11, 175), QB/WR Colton Hill (6-2, 175), LB Jaekob Jackson (5-10, 200), TE Casner Stribling (6-3, 225), DL Brayan Sandoval (5-11, 280). Top juniors: QB Micah Smith (6-0, 180), OL Ethan Boyd (6-3, 300), DB Jaxon Kennedy (5-10, 175).

Other prospects: DB Kasen Rodgers, RB Elijah Allen, DL Riley Oines, WR Gavin Johnson, WR Jesse Smith, RB Darius Huit, LB Tucker Beaty.

2025 notes: The Bobcats will bring a wealth of experience to the field this fall with a lot of three-year starters that are looking to get Central just its second playoff win since 2018. WR Edwards is a speed threat that can lengthen the field, while QB/WR Hill led the team in receiving as a sophomore. Central's linebacker corps figures to be one of the best in West Texas thanks to Van Sickle's instincts and Jackson's ability to stop both the run and pass. The offensive and defensive lines for the Bobcats also boast a wealth of experience and positional flexibility. OL Boyd started every game as a sophomore and brings physicality to the trenches.

FRENSHIP TIGERS

Coach: Jay Northcutt. Lettermen R/L: 32/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 10-2 DII area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Chase Campbell (6-2, 185, 4.4), WR Hayden Wilson (5-11, 175), OL Mason Slover (6-3, 275, 5.2), DT Brandon Lucero (6-0, 230, 5.0), LB Noah Lopez (6-0, 215, 4.8), DE Hudson Page (6-5, 255, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Cannon Richardson (6-3, 210, 4.7), WR Zade McClure (6-1, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Neil Woodman (5-11, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB Randin Cabarrubio, DT Gunner Edwards, DE Mark Nusz, OL Bryson Salas, DB Alex Smith, WR Noah Gonzales, DB Kolton Christie, QB Quaid Ferris.

2025 notes: The Tigers have three consecutive playoff berths and are 28-8 over that time while averaging nearly 45 points per game. Northcutt attributes that to the program's culture but realizes Frenship lost a lot of talent on offense due to graduation. Despite those losses, the Tigers have a big threat in WR Campbell (1,458 yards receiving, 28 total TDs) as he can score in a variety of ways - receiving, rushing, passing and on special teams. WR Wilson is another returning starter from the most prolific 2024 passing attack in the state. OL Slover is a big body up front for the Tigers and will help dictate play. LB Lopez was the district's Newcomer of the Year in 2024 and will lead a Tiger defense that's one of the fastest in the area.

LEGACY REBELS

Coach: Clint Hartman. Lettermen R/L: 35/35. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 6-6 DII area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Nic Moore (5-11, 180, 4.4), QB J.P. Reyes (5-11, 175, 4.7), OL Dylan Roemisch (6-3, 300, 5.6), OL Dylan Walters (6-2, 280, 5.5), DB Levi Martinez (6-1, 180, 4.6), DB Trey Jefferson (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top junior: LB Joseph Larson (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Ja' Braylen Anders (6-1, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Caden Ellis, RB McKenzie Rogers, WR Cisco Rodriguez, DB Olamide Oladiran, DL Drew Nisius, DB Weldon Cooks, WR Jermaine Laster, DL Jason Williams.

2025 notes: Hartman's had four teams make it to at least the third round of the playoffs, and the veteran coach thinks the 2025 Rebels will be the best team he's had in his tenure, starting with junior QB Reyes. After throwing for a school record 422 yards in his varsity debut, Reyes methodically picked apart defenses the rest of the year and has had a full offseason to entrench himself as the starter. WR/DB Moore and WR Anders are a pair of speedy threats that will be involved in the Rebel offense, which features several athletic linemen. DBs Martinez and Jefferson highlight a talented secondary that does a great job of shutting down opposing passing attacks and funnels the game to LB Larson, an impact player in the middle of the field.

MIDLAND BULLDOGS

Coach: Thad Fortune. Lettermen R/L: 19/34. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Pule Primus (6-4, 330),

District 2-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Chase Campbell, Wolfforth Frenship

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Levi Martinez, Midland Legacy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Midland Legacy (3,570.5)
2. Wolfforth Frenship (3,384)
3. Odessa Permian (4,905)
4. Midland (3,478)
5. San Angelo Central (3,018)
6. Odessa (4,238.5)

QB Tristan Love (5-9, 165, 4.7), DB Jojo Lievens (5-8, 165, 4.7), LB Lucas Ramirez (5-10, 180, 4.8), LB Robert Hardin (6-0, 180, 4.7), RB Wyatt King (5-9, 185, 4.7). Top juniors: ATH Carson Ham (6-0, 165, 4.6), OL Jesus Garcia (6-1, 260, 5.0). Top sophomore: DE Joseph Pangle (6-0, 190, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Jordan McGowan, WR Keandre Garnett, LB Josiah Chavez, WR Ross Blackburn, ATH Carter Anderson, OL Luke Holeman, OL Jose Guerrero.

2025 notes: Graduation hit Midland hard as Fortune only has a pair of starters back on each side of the football from a squad that surprised a lot of people in 2024. One of those returners is OL Primus, a two-year starter with numerous offers from Big 12 schools. QB Love, who missed last year with an injury, went 8-1 as a sophomore when leading the offense. His return to health is going to be beneficial to the Bulldogs. DB Lievens (55 tackles, 4 INTs) was a second-team all-district selection as a junior, and Midland is expecting big things from him this year. LBs Ramirez and Hardin are expected to move into starting roles and help MHS make a run at a third consecutive playoff berth.

ODESSA BRONCHOS

Coach: Erik Hartman. Lettermen R/L: 28/40. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 2-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Andrew Rodriguez (6-1, 190, 4.7), WR Bo Rodriguez (6-0, 175, 4.7), LB Martin Alva (5-10, 180, 4.8), TE Kobi Baldonado (6-2, 190, 4.8), DT Jayden Hodges (5-10, 275, 5.2).

2025 notes: Hartman enters his second year leading the Broncos looking forward to having a healthy WR Andrew Rodriguez, who can make an impact and stretch the field with his speed. WR B. Rodriguez (675 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and sophomore TE Baldonado (763 yards, 6 TDs receiving) will also benefit from WR Bo Rodriguez's return as they will be able to spread the field more with his help. Odessa is looking to develop running backs as the Broncos are needing to find someone that can carry the load behind OL Gutierrez in the trenches. Gutierrez has helped the offensive and defensive lines get stronger during the offseason.

PERMIAN PANTHERS

Coach: Jeff Ellison. Lettermen R: 31. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Jakob Garcia (6-0, 185), RB Gavin Black (6-0, 210), LB Caleb Jamison (6-0, 205), DL Coffie Powell (6-0, 250), WR/DB Cameron Mattingly (6-1, 185), LB Jayson Cranfill (6-0, 225), DB Nata Cardoza (5-11, 165), WR Zephaniah DeLeon (5-9, 185), DB Izeyah McCoy, QB/WR Malachi Mendoza, WR Aaron Navarette, QB Caden Vickers, TE Inabong John, DE Gael Zazueta, DL Alijah Green, RB Cayden Taylor, WR Cayden Hernandez, K Iker Munoz.

2025 notes: The Panthers have finished with a winning record for the past 12 years and this year looks to be no different on paper. Permian will use multiple looks on offense and have RB Black (2,375 yards, 31 TDs rushing) and QB Garcia (1,483 yards, 14 TDs passing) back to lead the way for the senior-heavy squad. Of the four holes to fill on offense, the Panthers are going to be looking for targets for Garcia to throw to as WR Hernandez (432 yards, 1 TD receiving) is his top returning receiver. LB Jamison (104 tackles) is a defensive stalwart that often finds himself in the middle of a play.



Ty GOWINS
WR/DB
Keller
Timber Creek



Alijah LASH
DE
Haslet Eaton



Drew EVERS
OL
Flower Mound



Edgar CORRALEJO
OL
McKinney Boyd



Judah THOMPSON
DB
Plano East



Chance CULEY
RB
Plano



Marcus FLOWERS
QB
Princeton



Jeremiah LYONS
RB/S
Richardson
Pearce

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

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CLASS 6A



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DISTRICT 3-6A Preview

BOSWELL PIONEERS

Coach: Wes Weaver. Lettermen R/L: 30/29. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Chance Lassiter (6-1, 190, 4.6), DL Ola Orebe (6-3, 265), WR Peyton Rhodes (5-6, 150, 4.8), LB Anthony Villari (5-10, 195, 4.7), LB Maui Peters (6-0, 185, 4.7), WR Jaxon Trammell (6-2, 180, 4.7). Top junior: QB Dju Dju Lords (6-2, 170, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL/DL Joseph Mwamba (6-2, 210).

Other prospects: QB Tyler Reyes, OL Hudson Norwhich, OL Kylar Davis, DL Ashtyn Davis, LB Tiago Torres.

2025 notes: The Pioneers struggled a year ago, as the opening of Eagle Mountain High took a big chunk of Boswell's depth, so the Pioneers had a young team in 2024. QB Lords (1,412 yards, 4 TDs passing) is back after nine starts as a sophomore. RB Lassiter (1,022 yards, 19 TDs rushing; 28-498, 2 TDs receiving) was the offensive newcomer of the year in 2024. Boswell should be solid on defense with the return of junior DL Orebe (2 sacks), LB Villari (76 tackles, 3 TFL) and LB Peters (86 tackles, 3 sacks, 2 INTs) after all three were productive a year ago.

CROWLEY EAGLES

Coach: Carlos Lynn. Lettermen R/L: 32/29. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-5 DII region semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Antanyvius Ellis (6-1, 180), CB Brandon Ford (6-0, 180), CB Jaleal Allen (5-10, 175), OL Alexander Herrera (6-7, 295). Top juniors: RB Kenyon Cotton (5-9, 175), LB Anthony Ainsworth (6-2, 190). Top sophomore: RB Joseph Banks (5-10, 170).

Other prospects: LB Matthias Martin, LB Tyler Hooper, OL Timothy Martin, DE Jayden Terry, DT Sebastian Reyes, OL Trent Bunch, WR Julius Cogbill, DT Zhirazheon Pullen-Parmes.

2025 notes: Fresh off their best season since 1971, the Eagles will look to continue their momentum as Crowley will lean on the defense with eight returning starters. Lynn says the biggest strength will be the secondary with CB Ford (2 INTs) and CB Allen (2 INTs), who both have FBS futures. Junior LB Ainsworth impressed as a sophomore and his elite speed is a game-changer. Crowley's offense is headlined by WR Ellis (56-808, 11 TDs receiving), who is considered one of the state's top receivers, while RB Cotton (1,126 yards, 8 TDs rushing) returns after an impressive sophomore debut. The big question for the Eagles will be inexperience at QB, as a four-year starter graduated, and youth on the offensive line.

LAKE RIDGE EAGLES

Coach: Kirk Thor. Lettermen R/L: 50/27. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Felix Ojo (6-7, 285, 4.9), LB Jayden Cupitt (6-3, 225, 4.6), QB DeShawn Edwards (5-10, 170, 4.5), WR Noel Butler (5-9, 175, 4.5), DL Mason Johnson (6-3, 295), WR Micah Blow (6-1, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Justin McBride (6-2, 285), RB Jaiden Cotton (6-0, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: DB Kylan Jones (6-0, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Jayden Evans, DL Bryce Pilot, DB Jared Henry, DB Tylen Hockett, RB Samuel Fogwe, OL Marshall Boehle, CB Josh Woods, CB Cameron Wilson.

2025 notes: Junior QB Edwards (795 yards, 4 TDs passing; 327 yards, 5 TDs rushing) showed promise a year ago and is ready to take the reins of the spread offense on a full-time basis. WR Butler (31-318, 5 TDs receiving; 2 kick return TDs) is back along with junior WR Blow (21-366, 3 TDs receiving). OL Ojo is a five-star prospect and one of the top recruits in the country. LB Cupitt (63 tackles) is an FBS prospect and will team with DL Johnson (40 tackles, 7 TFL) to lead what should be an improved defense.

LEGACY BRONCOS

Coach: Jeff Hulme. Lettermen R/L: 18/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-8 6A DII bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Khalil Sanogo (6-5, 305), RB JJ Harrison (5-10, 205, 4.7), WR D'Andre Thomas (5-8, 165, 4.5), LB Trent Hamann (6-0, 205, 4.7), ATH Nathan Wilson (6-0, 200, 4.6), QB Jake Jenkins (6-4, 205, 4.8). Top juniors: WR/CB Aisten Randall (5-9, 165, 4.5), LB Brailyn Ware (5-10, 195, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Jeremy Odunsi, OL Branden Robinson, DL Alec Cano, DE Ola Olaoluwa, WR Quenterious Crawford, LB Angelo Freeman, S Jeffrey Brown, K/P Jeremiah Kieffer.

2025 notes: RB Harrison topped 1,000 yards on the ground as a sophomore and will operate behind a solid offensive line, anchored by Sanogo. WR Thomas had three receiving touchdowns last year and should be the top target for QB Jenkins, who returns after missing much of 2024 with an injury. LB Hamann led the team in tackles a year ago and will lead the defense, while WR/CB Randall is back after impressing as a sophomore. Hulme says team chemistry is a strength, while the big concern will be replacing three of four starters on the defensive line.

MANSFIELD TIGERS

Coach: Greg George. Lettermen R/L: 20/42. Starters

District 3-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Damarion Mays, North Crowley

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

CB Brandon Ford, Crowley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. North Crowley (2,947)
2. Crowley (2,496)
3. Mansfield (2,603)
4. Mansfield Legacy (2,564)
5. Saginaw Boswell (2,564)
6. Weatherford (2,493)
7. Mansfield Lake Ridge (2,774)

returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-3 6A DI bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Zion Robinson (6-4, 210, 4.6), OL Oliver Escudier (6-2, 275), DE Jordan Brandon (6-2, 225, 4.7), WR/P Jonah Hand (5-9, 175, 4.6), DB Saadel Davis (5-11, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: DE Jayden Vincent (6-2, 190, 4.5), WR/K Cole Williams (5-9, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Raymond Weaver (5-9, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: QB Mykah Lankford, DT Marquise Reese, RB Jayden Vasquez.

2025 notes: The Tigers lose a Division I WR and a three-year starter at QB, but the good news is WR Robinson (43-532, 8 TDs receiving) is back to lead the way. Keep an eye on sophomore RB Weaver, who has a chance to be the next great back out of Mansfield. WR/P Hand (21-218, 2 TDs) is also an all-district punter. DE Brandon (23 tackles, 2 sacks) impressed as a sophomore and should take on a leadership role for the defense along with DB Davis, who was outstanding in his first year playing football. George says losing a large senior class and the inexperience that comes with it will be challenges in 2025.

NORTH CROWLEY PANTHERS

Coach: Ray Gates. Lettermen R/L: 32/42. Starters returning O/D: 2/6. 2024: 16-0 DI state champion/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Damarion Mays (6-3, 180, 4.5), WR Kade Smith (5-11, 180, 4.5), OL John Turntine (6-4, 275, 4.9), S Aaron Bradshaw (6-3, 190, 4.5), RB Kiante Ingram (6-0, 185, 4.5), TE Jeremie Cooper (6-4, 230, 4.6). Top juniors: CB Jerry Outhouse (6-2, 175, 4.5), S Eliajuan Houston (5-11, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Hayden Green (6-3, 185, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Jacob Torres, DE Robert McMillian, WR Kingston Parks, LB Avery Dotson, WR Aiden Whitmore, LB Brock Lacy, CB Thomas Cook, DT Demorey Beasley, DT Derrick Gleason.

2025 notes: After going 26-2 in two seasons under Gates, the Panthers roared to an unbeaten season and a state title. A stellar senior class loaded with three-year starters has graduated, but the cupboard is far from empty with some exciting young talent returning along with new faces from a 10-0 JV squad. The Panthers will be deep along the defensive line, while the secondary could have multiple FBS prospects, led by S Bradshaw. Sophomore WR Mays (68-1,640, 16 TDs receiving) had a monster freshman season at Dallas Life and will lead a deep WR group. OL Turntine is one of the top prospects in the country, while junior RB Ingram (612 yards, 13 TDs rushing) will take over as the featured back. If there's one concern for NCHS, it'll be replacing four starters on the offensive line.

WEATHERFORD KANGAROOS

Coach: Aubrey Sims. Lettermen R/L: 27/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Liam Riley (6-0, 215, 4.6), DL Quinton Martinez (6-1, 225, 4.9), DE Cade Burlison (6-1, 205, 4.8), RB Brennan Boehl (5-9, 170, 4.6), QB Brooks Kerbow (5-10, 165, 4.9), OL Rhett Gray (6-7, 290). Top juniors: WR Rule Doss (5-11, 180, 4.8), TE Harrison McMillan (6-5, 225, 4.9).

Other prospects: LB Kaddiac Galindo, DB Moises Barco, DL Stetson Wells, WR Jacob Hemphill, OL Jaden Rucker, OL Chayson Moon, WR Bryant Davis, WR Robert Mask.

2025 notes: QB Kerbow (777 yards, 5 TDs passing) started three games last year and showed promise leading the offense, while RB Boehl (435 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is expected to take over as the featured back where he'll operate behind a large offensive line. The front seven of the Weatherford defense expects to be a strength with the return of junior DL Martinez, senior DE Burlison and senior LB Riley (60 tackles, 5 TFL), who is the team's top returning tackler. Sims says he likes his team's overall experience, but has concerns about overall team speed.



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LB
Arlington Lamar



Amarean
PORTER
WR
Wylie East



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WILLIAMS
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DISTRICT 4-6A Preview

BYRON NELSON BOBCATS

Coach: Zachary Woodward. Lettermen R/L: 22/46. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 8-3 DI bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: TE Parker Almanza (6-4, 240, 4.8), ATH Nolan Hawkins (6-1, 185, 4.5), DL Fine Vailahi (6-3, 250, 4.9), WR/DB Mahamadou Siby (6-0, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Roman McFarland (6-5, 260), DL Will Myers (6-1, 230).

2025 notes: Off the field, the Bobcats' program is reeling after the sudden death of longtime coach Travis Pride in May. On the field, TE Almanza (58-767, 9 TDs receiving) is a tough matchup and the staff will look to scheme him to create favorable situations. ATH Hawkins (39 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 sack, 3 INTs) saw significant action in the secondary as a freshman, so look for him to see time on offense in 2025. DL Vailahi will be an impact transfer for a front seven on defense that will have a lot of new faces in the fall.

CARROLL DRAGONS

Coach: Riley Dodge. Lettermen R/L: 40/36. Starters returning O/D: 10/9. 2024: 15-1 6A DII state finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Angelo Renda (6-0, 180), WR Brock Boyd (6-2, 180), RB Davis Penn (5-10, 190), S William Chen (5-10, 180), DE/P Zac Hays (6-3, 220), S/K Gavin Strange (5-10, 185). Top juniors: WR Blake Gunter (6-2, 180), OL Tristan Dare (6-5, 285).

Other prospects: S Parker Harris, WR Brody Knowles, LB Robbie Ladd, LB Will Taholo, OL Carey Clayton, OL Luke Wilson, DT Jake Lucky.

2025 notes: After falling in the title game a year ago, 2025 could be the year Carroll wins a ninth state title. QB Renda (3,899 yards, 40 TDs passing; 667 yards, 14 TDs rushing) is a Pitt commit and one of the state's top dual-threat signal-callers. Ohio State commit WR Boyd (112-1,868, 19 TDs receiving) and RB Penn (925 yards, 17 TDs rushing; 12-115, 2 TDs receiving) gives Carroll one of the state's top group of skill players. Add in three FBS-caliber offensive linemen and you have the makings of a lethal attack. The defense returns nearly intact with all-state S Chen (89 tackles, 11 TFL, 4 sacks, 2 INTs) as the leader. DE/P Hays (77 tackles, 7 TFL, 11 sacks) and S/K Strange (41 tackles, 1 INT) get it done on defense and special teams.

CENTRAL CHARGERS

Coach: Eric Vance. Lettermen R/L: 27/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: RB Spencer Martin (5-10, 185, 4.7), LB Holden Myres (5-8, 185, 4.9), DL Ian Davidson (5-9, 300), FS Austin Martin (6-1, 200, 4.7), OL Deandre Henry (5-9, 230), OL Kyan Harris (5-10, 240). Top juniors: LB Brayden Nichols (5-7, 155, 4.6), WR Braylen Dixon (6-1, 200, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB Isaiah Taylor (6-1, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Jeremiah Parker, LB Chance David, CB Gabe Cobbs, LB Ahkeelin Davis, DL Gabe Morton, WR Jeremiah Taylor.

2025 notes: It's been a tough go for the Chargers the past three seasons, winning just two total games. But there were signs of progress in Vance's first season. Junior RB Spencer Martin (617 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is already entering his third year on varsity and will be a key cog in the Chargers' attack. He'll run behind an OL led by Henry and Harris. Vance says junior WR Dixon showed a lot of promise as a sophomore and could be due for a breakout season. The defense, which returns eight starters, should be much-improved. LB Myres (92 tackles, 10 TFL) had a strong season, while FS Austin Martin (70 tackles) is back to lead the secondary. Junior LB Nichols (61 tackles, 2 INTs) is back after a strong sophomore season.

EATON EAGLES

Coach: Ellis Miller. Lettermen R/L: 18/54. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: DE Alijah Lash (6-2, 230, 4.6), ATH Chris Duharte (5-9, 175, 4.5), QB Kalika Nisa (5-11, 190, 4.7), S Ramsey Villarreal (6-1, 180, 4.6), DE Ahmad Griffin (6-1, 225, 4.6), OL Ben Lane (6-5, 300). Top juniors: WR Warren Simmons (6-1, 170, 4.5), OL Wyatt Roberson (6-2, 250). Top sophomore: WR Alex Abbs (5-9, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Keaton Novotny, DT Christian Stewart, RB Micah Rivers, OL Daniel Dickerson, LB Xavier

Whittis, TE Ethan Dulaney, DT Kaden Bram, DB Carl Jones.

2025 notes: Eaton loses a large group of seniors, but there's excitement about some of the young talent in the pipeline. ATH Duharte (205 yards, 2 TDs rushing) missed nearly all of 2024 with an injury, but was all-district as a sophomore. His return will be a big addition for the offense. As a freshman, QB Nisa piloted the JV to a 9-1 record, and Miller says he has the tools to be elite. DE Lash (58 tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks) is a freak athlete off the edge who has a high motor. He leads a defensive line that the staff believes will be the strength of the Eagles' defense. "We'll be less experienced, but a much more athletic team across the board," said Miller.

KELLER INDIANS

Coach: Carl Stralow. Lettermen R/L: 27/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Brock Burkett (6-1, 195, 4.6), LB Matthew Reagan (5-11, 195, 4.6), DE Caleb Muse (6-3, 240, 4.7), WR Brock Meek (6-3, 190, 4.6), RB Quintin Shropshire (5-10, 185, 4.5), OL Shaun Harris (6-7, 250, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Judd Mahon (6-1, 250, 4.9), CB James Middleton (5-11, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: QB Matthew McCroskey (6-1, 195, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Temi Ericson, OL Knox Browning, WR Bodie Davis, LB Kaiden McCauley, WR Ralph Crosby, WR Bradley McCroskey, DL Cason Stoner, CB Baron Brown.

2025 notes: The Indians missed out on the playoffs for the first time since 2020, but Stralow believes his team can get back into contention in a deep 4-6A race. QB Burkett (819 yards, 4 TDs passing) started four games a year ago, and now he'll lead the offense full-time. WR Meek (27-460, 1 TD receiving) and RB Shropshire (523 yards, 6 TDs rushing) will give Keller plenty of experienced playmakers. OL Harris and junior OL Mahon will be the anchors of an offensive line that returns just two starters. DE Muse (56 tackles, 17 TFL, 6 sacks) and LB Reagan (71 tackles, 4 TFL) will anchor a defense that will be young across the board, as just four starters return.

L.D. BELL BLUE RAIDERS

Coach: TJ Dibble. Lettermen R/L: 22/47. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Brendon Gleim (6-0, 195), TE David Hackworth (6-2, 220), DB Tre'Von Taylor (5-8, 150), OL Siouli Tupou (6-0, 350), WR Caleb Walton (5-8, 150), LB Bradyn Clark (6-0, 200). Top juniors: TE Taysen Rutschman (6-4, 225), WR Gavin Roberson (6-5, 185). Top sophomore: OL/DL Siosefa Fakailoatonga (6-2, 255).

Other prospects: WR Braelon Solomon, DL Micaiah Canady, ATH Dawson Jones.

2025 notes: The Blue Raiders struggled a year ago in their new district, but Dibble has optimism for improvement as Bell welcomes back six on both sides of the ball and reinforcements from a 7-3 JV squad. ATH Gleim (485 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is a dynamic playmaker who will be utilized all over the field for the offense. TE Hackworth and OL Tupou will be counted on up front to open holes for the ground game. LB Clark (40 tackles, 1 sack) and speedy DB Taylor will be the leaders of what Dibble believes will be an improved defense. "We've got a good mix of experience across the board," said Dibble, who lists lack of experience at QB and in the defensive backfield as question marks heading into fall camp.

NORTHWEST TEXANS

Coach: Bill Poe. Lettermen R/L: 30/36. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/4-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Tristan Clutter (6-0, 200, 4.7), RB Caris Sela (6-0, 185, 4.6), S Kaden Olson (6-1, 180, 4.7), OL Jace Mitcham (6-1, 295), CB Nick Curley (6-0, 160, 4.6), WR Tyler Singer (6-1, 165, 4.9). Top junior: QB Mark Hartman (6-1, 190, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL Ty Zumwalt (6-3, 270).

Other prospects: DL Prince Ngum, ATH Trey Poe, DE Uriah Crawford.

2025 notes: After juggling back up to 6A last year, the Texans were able to snap a playoff appearance, but a strong senior class has graduated and Poe says several sophomores will be asked to play key roles. Junior RB

District 4-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Brock Boyd, Southlake Carroll

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

S Caleb Adom, Eules Trinity

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Southlake Carroll (2,820.5)
2. Eules Trinity (3,689)
3. Byron Nelson (2,892)
4. Keller (3,022)

5. Justin Northwest (2,550)
6. Northwest Eaton (3,262)
7. Keller Timber Creek (3,031)
8. Hurst L.D. Bell (3,157)
9. Keller Central (2,544)

Sela (193 yards, 2 TDs rushing) and junior QB Hartman are expected to be the key cogs for the offense along with a veteran group of WRs led by Singer (43-573, 4 TDs receiving). LB Clutter (60 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 INT) will lead the defense, while the secondary has experience back with S Olson (50 tackles, 2 TFL) and CB Curley (18 tackles). Poe says the offensive line inexperience is the biggest concern going into fall camp.

TIMBER CREEK FALCONS

Coach: Austin Kaehn. Lettermen R/L: 16/32. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 5-5/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Ty Gowins (5-9, 185, 4.6), DB Landyn Hicks (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Colin Vega (5-10, 205, 4.9), OL Jacob McCandless (6-2, 270), WR Jackson Bass (6-1, 180, 4.7), DL Landon Edwards (6-2, 210, 4.9). Top juniors: WR Ebube Okwelu (6-2, 175, 4.6), RB Trey Hopkins (5-9, 185, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR JuJu Williams (6-2, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Joshua Mayshaw, DB Andrew Bridges, OL Daniel Valencia, WR Blaine Everage, WR Aiden Laney, QB Peyton Jankowski, LB Nathan Giddens, RB Dareon Simmons.

2025 notes: After a 2-0 start in non-district, 4-6A play proved to be much tougher as the Falcons missed out on the playoffs in Kaehn's first season. A much younger team will take the field in 2025, specifically on offense, where much of the skill talent will be young and unproven. WR Bass (22-227, 2 TDs receiving) is the lone skill player with any stats of significance in 2024. There's some pieces to build around on defense with DB Hicks (64 tackles, 2 TFL), and LB Vega (62 tackles, 4 TFL, 2 sacks) returning. WR/DB Gowins (39 tackles, 2 INTs) is also a dynamic threat in the return game and could see more time on offense as the Falcons look for playmakers to emerge.

TRINITY TROJANS

Coach: Aaron Lineweaver. Lettermen R/L: 40/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 11-2 DI region semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB JT Harris (5-9, 180, 4.5), OL Toa Katooa (6-4, 350), OL Israel Hola-Niutei (6-4, 290), S Caleb Adom (6-0, 175, 4.5), LB Gordon Mohetau (6-0, 230), OL Leyonte Chandler (6-6, 280). Top juniors: DB John Meredith (6-3, 180, 4.5), TE Kohen Fiefia (6-1, 240). Top sophomore: DL Misi Naupoto (6-2, 250).

Other prospects: QB Mack Lineweaver, DL Simi Naupoto, WR Jalen Donaldson, ATH Zo Palmore, LB Sir Mims, DB Chayce Davis, DB Dontrell Johnson, OL Caden Stanley.

2025 notes: Trinity put together a strong 2024 campaign, posting 11 wins before falling by one in the regional semifinals to Allen. The Trojans, as always, will lean on the ground game and their massive offensive line. They've got the pieces to do it with RB Harris (1,428 yards, 17 TDs rushing) operating behind OLs Katooa, Hola-Niutei and Chandler. Harris is also a force in the kicking game with three return touchdowns a year ago. Trinity's defense is led by LB Mohetau, who is the team's top returning tackler, while the secondary has promise with the return of S Adom and rangy DB Meredith. If there's a question mark for Trinity, it'll be youth at QB and along the defensive line.

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DISTRICT 5-6A Preview

BRASWELL BENGALS

Coach: Kent Laster. Lettermen R/L: 31/33. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Brayden Mansell (6-1, 180), RB Zahir Trufant (5-8, 165), WR Chris Johnson (5-9, 165), OL Brayden Wood (6-3, 290), DE Adrien Donnerson (6-2, 220), LB Tyrice Hoskins (5-9, 170). Top juniors: LB Huran Brown (6-2, 230), OL Chasen Johnson (6-2, 250). Top sophomore: WR Emanuel Fuller (5-9, 165).

Other prospects: OL Brenden Ross, DE Christien Green, LB Jacob Mercado, LB Darrion Dorrough, WR Ma'Ke Jackson, CB Jaylin Hudson, DB Marcus Hills, TE Chris Bourgeois.

2025 notes: The Bengals have their sights set on major improvement in 2025 as Laster welcomes back seven starters on both sides of the ball along with help from an 8-2 JV squad. QB Mansell (561 yards, 3 TDs passing) takes over the offense full-time and has some playmakers to work with in RB Trufant (431 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and WR Johnson (47-391, 2 TDs receiving). OL Wood had a strong sophomore season, and the team captain can play all five positions up front. DE Donnerson (24 tackles, 2 sacks) has elite athleticism off the edge and will be a force along with LB Hoskins (57 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks). Junior LB Brown (36 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 sack) had a strong sophomore debut and will be a key contributor.

COPPELL COWBOYS

Coach: Antonio Wiley. Lettermen R/L: 7/57. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 12-1 DI region semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: CB Tyree Robertson (6-0, 180, 4.5), S Tyrell Robertson (6-0, 185, 4.5), LB Lincoln Gardner (6-1, 210, 4.6), LB Madden Montague (5-11, 200, 4.5), WR Will Kennington (5-9, 180, 4.5), WR Brandon Veali (6-4, 190, 4.5). Top juniors: OL/DT Eric Anguiano (6-3, 240), CB Jaden Bibbs (5-11, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: DT Aaron Isbell (6-2, 240).

Other prospects: WR Zander Montgomery, TE Evan Macken, ATH Kenneth Gibbs Jr., DE Brayton Powell.

2025 notes: After back-to-back 12-1 seasons, Coppell will look to retol on the fly after the Cowboys were gutted by graduation. Defense is where most of the returning experience lies for CHS, specifically in the secondary with the return of CB Tyree Robertson (30 tackles, 4 INTs) and S Tyrell Robertson (33 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 INTs). They both have elite ball skills and are good tacklers. Wiley says junior LB Gardner is the next in a line of outstanding Coppell LBs. Offensively, there are a ton of questions as new faces will be everywhere. WRs Veali and Kennington are exciting prospects for the offense. "We'll have some challenges early with the youth, but we feel like by the time district rolls around we'll be ready to compete," said Wiley.

FLOWER MOUND JAGUARS

Coach: Brian Basil. Lettermen R/L: 21/32. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 5-5/2-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Drew Evers (6-4, 300), WR Carter Massey (6-2, 180, 4.5), WR Ryan Stadler (5-8, 155, 4.5), LB Chase Alves (6-0, 225, 4.9), RB Slate Dettweiler (5-11, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Dylan Omoyi (5-11, 170, 4.5), WR Trey Brown (5-11, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Wyatt LeJeune (6-0, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: S Christian Hirniak, LB Jordan Olive, DE Jacob Norris, S Dane Ridenour, DT Donny Baker, CB Braden Guard, LB Preston Neill, K/P Zain Alkhatib.

2025 notes: After going undefeated in non-district, the Jags failed to keep up that pace in a tough district, finishing outside of the playoffs. If they are going to take the next step, a big key will be the development of youth in the trenches on both sides of the ball. OL Evers is one of the country's most highly recruited prospects and will provide leadership for that young group up front. WR Massey (43-575, 9 TDs receiving) put up great numbers in just five games and will return as the top target. The

defense will be led by LB Alves (64 tackles, 4 TFL), who has a "nose for the ball," according to Basil. This is a high-upside team — if they reach their potential, the Jaguars could challenge for the top of the district.

GUYER WILDCATS

Coach: Reed Heim. Lettermen R/L: 30/43. Starters returning O/D: 3/7. 2024: 10-4 DII region finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Khyren Haywood (6-1, 275, 4.8), TE/DE Zane Rowe (6-4, 230, 4.7), LB Ryder Garcia (6-2, 230, 4.6), RB/S Kaedyn Cobbs (6-1, 210, 4.5), WR Corbin Glasco (5-9, 175, 4.4), WR DJ Reese (5-9, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: QB Zephyr Kreye (6-5, 220, 4.7), S Paxton Williams (6-0, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Tristan Shelton (6-1, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Caleb Fowler, S Jaylon Sterling, S Owen Whistler, RB DJ Black, RB Aiden Martens, OL Denzel Devereaux, OL Adriano Nevarez, DL Logan Lokey.

2025 notes: The Wildcats made a run all the way to the regional finals, and if a young offense can mature, they could be a real state title contender in 2025. The defensive front is the headline attraction with the return of DL Haywood (75 tackles, 23 TFL, 5 sacks) and TE/DE Rowe (77 tackles, 19 TFL, 9 sacks). LB Garcia (109 tackles, 20 TFL, 10 sacks) is the team's top returning tackler. Power Four commit RB/S Cobbs (359 yards, 6 TDs rushing; 67 tackles, 8 TFL) is a two-way standout, while the Wildcats also get P4 commit WR Glasco (14-134, 1 TD receiving) back after nearly missing all of 2024 with an injury. Junior QB Kreye is a physical specimen and is slated to take over at QB.

HEBRON HAWKS

Coach: John Towels. Lettermen R/L: 25/40. Starters returning O/D 9/5. 2024: 8-5 DII region semifinalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Tyler Hoke (6-0, 180), RB Ayson McCray-Jones (5-7, 190), OL Corbin Berrier (6-3, 315), LB Aaron McCardell (5-10, 205), OL Jake Henneke (6-5, 275), ATH Drew Koster (5-9, 180). Top junior: DB Dillon Collins (6-1, 185). Top sophomore: ATH Jevonyae Broussard (6-2, 175).

Other prospect: ATH Caleb McLeod.

2025 notes: The Hawks broke through with a strong 2024 season, advancing to the regional semifinals after finishing fourth in a tough district. Hebron brings back nine starters on offense but replacing an FBS signal-caller will be a big question. WR Hoke (35-673, 9 TDs receiving) is a three-year starter with immense big-play ability, according to the coaching staff. RB McCray-Jones (1,186 yards, 12 TDs rushing) is another three-year starter who often serves as Hebron's "closer," as he gets better as the game progresses. ATH Koster (32-556, 5 TDs receiving) is another explosive playmaker who could be a factor in all three phases. DB Collins made an impression as a sophomore and will be a key contributor for the Hebron secondary.

LEWISVILLE FIGHTING FARMERS

Coach: Michael Odle. Lettermen R/L: 32/29. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Derrick Martin (5-10, 180, 4.5), RB Tenel Hill (5-9, 185, 4.7), LB Devin Robinson (5-10, 185, 4.6), ATH Aiden Evans (5-10, 175, 4.5), DL Xavier Fleming (6-0, 295), CB Taelyn Mayo (6-4, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: QB Tre Williams (5-11, 190, 4.8), TE Landon Bogany (6-3, 225, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Peter McDonald (6-2, 220).

Other prospects: LB Javar Curington, CB Kanye Anderson, WR Trejan Mueller, WR Jayden Thomas.

2025 notes: After making the playoffs a year ago, the Farmers will look to get back to contention in Region I and Odle's squad has the pieces to do it with a strong cast back, plus help from an 8-2 JV squad. LHS is loaded at the skill spots with ATH Martin (41-403, 6 TDs receiving; 351 yards, 6 TDs rushing), RB Hill (1,163 yards, 9 TDs rushing)

District 5-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Derrick Martin, Lewisville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Khyren Haywood, Denton Guyer

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Denton Guyer (2,583)
2. Coppell (4,364.5)
3. Lewisville (4,162)
4. Lewisville Hebron (3,673)
5. Flower Mound Marcus (3,003)
6. Denton Braswell (2,795.5)
7. Flower Mound (3,440.5)
8. Little Elm (2,530)

and QB Williams (1,730 yards, 19 TDs passing) all returning. Junior LB Robinson (84 tackles, 5 TFL) was the district's defensive newcomer of the year and will lead what should be an improved defense along with DL Fleming (45 tackles, 8 TFL), a Houston commit. ATH Evans (43 tackles, 1 INT) and junior CB Mayo are the leaders of a veteran secondary. Odle says the interior of the offensive and defensive lines are the big questions.

LITTLE ELM LOBOS

Coach: Keiston Alexander. Lettermen R/L: 37/27. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 0-10/0-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Carlton Mims (5-10, 170, 4.5), CB Cason Evans (5-10, 175, 4.6), DE Aidan Mayne (6-2, 225), TE Jacob Ibadapo (6-2, 195, 4.6), LB Demauri Steele (5-10, 215, 4.8), DE Michael Agyemang Jr. (6-1, 220, 4.8). Top juniors: QB Max Reyes (6-1, 180, 4.7), WR Kaiden Jones (6-0, 155, 4.7). Top sophomore: S Curran Swint (5-11, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB Abre Obannon, WR Crew Veltri, OL Josh Miller, OL Israel Armendariz, DL David Henderson, RB Tyson Paul, DE Zayden Mosley-Cleveland, CB Landon Echols.

2025 notes: Little Elm hit rock bottom a year ago and there's no place to go but up as former Coppell assistant Keiston Alexander takes over in his head coaching debut. WR Mims (39-518, 4 TDs receiving) is an explosive downfield threat for junior QB Reyes (770 yards, 6 TDs passing). Alexander says the Lobos' skill positions are the definite strength of the offense as LEHS should have dangerous playmakers all over the field. The defense expects to be improved with the return of DE Mayne (51 tackles, 2 sacks) and LB Steele (57 tackles). Alexander says a lack of depth and experience on the defensive line is the biggest concern heading into 2025.

MARCUS MARAUDERS

Coach: Mike Alexander. Lettermen R/L: 26/46. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 6-4/3-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Colton Nussmeier (6-4, 200, 4.6), DB Easton Mitchell (6-2, 180, 4.6), DB Bradley Ume-Ezeoke (5-10, 175, 4.6), ATH Jake Torbesen (5-11, 165, 4.5), ATH Jameson Mayfield (6-0, 195, 4.7), WR Peyton Belton (5-7, 170, 4.5). Top junior: DL Liam Hoskins (6-3, 225, 4.8). Top sophomore: TE Berr Kogler (6-3, 210, 4.7).

2025 notes: Despite a winning record a year ago, the Marauders were on the outside of the playoff race in a tough district. Alexander believes Marcus is ready to jump back into the postseason with the return of junior QB Nussmeier (1,899 yards, 16 TDs passing), who is considered among the top signal-callers in the Class of 2027. He'll have to get things done with a completely new group of receivers. WR Belton will be a factor along with ATH Mayfield, as Alexander says he'll be an impact player on both sides of the ball. The strength of the defense will be the secondary as Marcus returns DBs Mitchell (66 tackles, 5 INTs) and Ume-Ezeoke (32 tackles). Inexperience on the defensive line is a big concern for the defense heading into the fall.

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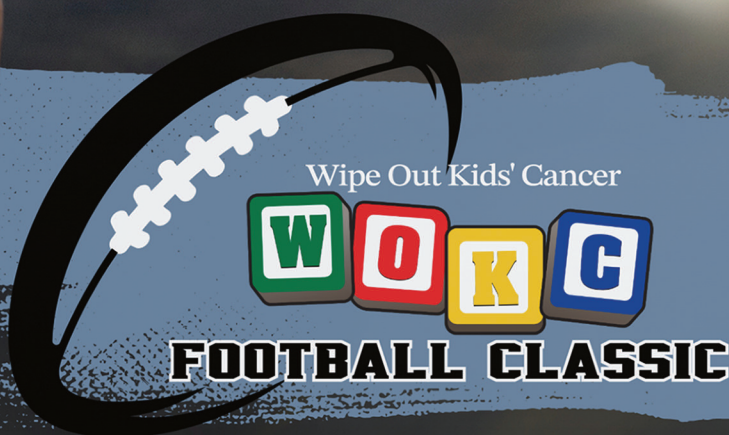
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DISTRICT 6-6A Preview

ALLEN EAGLES

Coach: Lee Wiginton. Lettermen R/L: 32/55. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 13-1 DI region finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Ja'Prei Wafer (6-0, 220, 4.6), CB Kai Wheaton (6-0, 175, 4.5), WR Carter Harris (6-3, 180, 4.6), CB LeBron Bauer (5-11, 170, 4.6), OL Jacob McRae (6-5, 275), WR Caleb Smith (5-9, 170, 4.4). Top juniors: S Trey Roberson (6-1, 205, 4.5), RB Lyndon Spriggs (5-7, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Josyah Johnson (5-10, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: DE Josh Shaw, DT Devin Palmer, OL Ethan Villareal, DB Amaechi Henson, RB Jaden Hambrick, LB Hova Willford, DE Jacobie Wilkerson, QB Nate Wenger.

2025 notes: The Eagles have the makings of a team that can once again challenge in Region I after advancing to the regional final the last two seasons. It starts on the defensive side of the ball where Allen looks to be stout with the return of LB Wafer (150 tackles, 20 TFL, 2 sacks, 2 INTs), who Wiginton says is the leader of the defense. Allen should have one of the better groups of DBs in the state with the return of two three-year starters in CBs Wheaton and Bauer (37 tackles, 2 INTs). WR Harris (21-588, 7 TDs receiving) is back along with sophomore WR Johnson (34-475, 3 TDs receiving), and WR Smith missed all of 2024 with an injury and has game-breaking speed. The big questions will be settling on a QB and replacing three starters on the offensive line.

BOYD BRONCOS

Coach: Stu Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 25/32. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Edgar Corralejo (6-1, 290), DL Oliver Bryant (6-0, 255), K Jeremiah Hernandez (5-9, 165, 4.9), ATH Yar'Von Evans (6-0, 180, 4.5), LB Tristan Hall (6-0, 210, 4.8), ATH Marcus Johnson (5-10, 200, 4.8), DB Hudson Drake (6-3, 185, 4.6), LB Ugo Anosike (6-1, 210, 4.7), RB/LB Timothy Karsholt (6-0, 200, 4.6), WR BJ Dixon, WR Peyton Korolevich, CB Charles Igo-Oporum, LB Aiden Duggan-Dobbins, DL Chaston Stephens, CB Jordan Washington, OL Eduardo Lopez, WR/DB Khaleel Gunter.

2025 notes: New head coach Stu Johnson comes to Boyd after a stint as the defensive coordinator at Lewisville. He takes over a Broncos squad that will lean on their veteran defense to pull them into playoff contention. DL Bryant (31 tackles, 2 sacks) is back after earning second-team all-district honors a year ago, while LB Hall (100 tackles) is a three-year letterman and the vocal leader of the defense. ATH Evans (90 tackles) and ATH Johnson (50 tackles, 3 INTs) lead the secondary and could flip to the offensive side of the ball, as well. Sophomore RB/LB Karsholt got a cup of coffee as a freshman and leads a strong group of sophomores that could see several guys be impact players in 2025.

McKINNEY LIONS

Coach: Nate Leonard. Lettermen R/L: 10/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/1. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Sean Sherman (6-4, 325), LB CJ Ukaji (6-0, 195), OL Johnny Allen (6-2, 270), OL Matthew Ehsan (5-11, 245), DL Langston Hill (6-0, 250), LB Cason White (6-1, 205). Top juniors: DL Ryder Soderman (6-0, 310), DB Jayden Ford (6-0, 160). Top sophomore: WR Ryan James (5-10, 160).

Other prospects: DB Nate Hall, TE Dylan Mitchell, RB Gavin Menefee, K/P Boston Stephens, DL Kim Benson.

2025 notes: The Lions made another playoff appearance in Leonard's return to his alma mater, but Year 2 could be challenging as youth will be served. The offense will be led by the big guys in the trenches with sophomore OL Sherman being the headliner after an impressive freshman season that garnered him FBS interest. OLs Allen and Ehsan are also back to give the offense a great foundation to build on. Defensively, there will be new faces across the board with 10 starters graduating. Junior LB Ukaji impressed in his sophomore debut and will be a key leader for the defense along with junior LB White and senior DL Hill. Leonard says aside from youth, his team will need to settle on a signal-caller as there are multiple candidates vying for the role.

PLANO WILDCATS

Coach: Cody White. Lettermen R/L: 25/55. Starters returning O/D: 2/5. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Chance Culley (6-0, 205, 4.5), S Braelyn Alexander (5-10, 180, 4.5), S Bradley Brown (6-2, 185, 4.5), QB/LB Joe Camacho (6-2, 190, 4.7), WR/DB Kaedyn Brown (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Kameryn Brown (5-10, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: CB Nuri Simms (6-1, 170, 4.5), OL/DL Jaylyn McKinney (6-1, 260). Top sophomore: QB CJ Smith (6-2, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Paris Walker, LB Darieon Sells, OL Connor Washington, WR/CB Giovanni Darrisaw, DL Christian Bell, TE/LB Greg Pitts, DL Daniel Olusola.

2025 notes: The Wildcats will be looking to push into the playoffs after just missing out a year ago. While Plano is young, there is some exciting skill talent in the pipeline. RB Culley (1,139 yards, 9 TDs rushing) is back after a first-team all-district campaign a year ago and will be the focal point of the offense while the young guys get up to speed. The defense will be anchored by a pair of playmaking safeties in Alexander (53 tackles, 1 INT) and Brown (30 tackles, 1 INT). Neither are afraid to come down in run support and they have great ball skills. Junior CB Simms started early in the year before an injury derailed his sophomore season. Talented sophomores Kaedyn and Kameryn Brown could be early contributors for Plano on either side of the ball.

PLANO EAST PANTHERS

Coach: Tony Benedetto. Lettermen R/L: 20/44. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Judah Thompson (6-1, 185, 4.6), TE Jackson Howard (6-2, 205, 4.6), RB Travis Agee (5-10, 195, 4.7), DL Javon Rogers (6-2, 260). Top juniors: QB Josh Gordon (6-2, 175, 4.6), DL Xavier Bonner (6-3, 210, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL/DL Kaden Fulcher (6-3, 250).

Other prospects: LB Jace Boutte, LB Ja'Ire Scott, DB Marvae Butts, DL John Paul, OL Benton Byers, RB/LB Akani Cruz-Berrios, OL/DL Jaxsen Harris, CB Cort Weidner.

2025 notes: The Panthers fell short of the playoffs a year ago, but they did put together their second straight winning season. The offense will rely on junior QB Gordon, who got a cup of coffee as a sophomore, to lead the offense. He has RB Agee (1,297 yards, 14 TDs rushing) and TE Howard (29-498, 7 TDs receiving) back to help. Replacing three starting offensive linemen will be key for the offense. DB Thompson (64 tackles, 5 INTs) will be the leader of the defense, while junior DE Rogers (6 sacks) is back after earning defensive newcomer of the year honors in 6-6A.

PLANO WEST WOLVES

Coach: Tyler Soukup. Lettermen R/L: 25/38. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Jordan Grant (6-3, 195, 4.6), RB Tobin Adeoye (5-10, 195, 4.7), OL Ryan Moses (6-0, 250), S Josh Padek (5-9, 175, 4.6), S Dean Walker (6-1, 185, 4.6), DE James Collins (6-1, 240, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Ty Gildea (6-2, 185, 4.7), OL Aidan Ray (6-5, 280).

2025 notes: It's been a tough go for the Wolves the past two seasons as they've dropped 19 of their last 20 games. QB Grant (1,049 yards, 6 TDs passing; 228 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back for a third season to lead the Wolves' attack. He's joined in the backfield by RB Adeoye (591 yards, 2 TDs rushing). OL Moses started 10 games a year ago and is the leader of the offensive line. S Padek (50 tackles) is the anchor of the secondary, while S Walker returns after starting 10 games as a sophomore. "We have several veteran players at key spots back and our depth is better as we had to work more guys in due to the injuries we dealt with," said Soukup.

PRINCETON PANTHERS

Coach: Ervin Chandler. Lettermen R/L: 28/18. Starters returning O/D: 9/10. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Marcus Flowers (6-2, 170), ATH Jordan Mosley (5-10, 175), OL Javian Smith (6-4, 310), LB Nick Rodriguez (5-9, 180). Top juniors: DT Kaidon Williams (6-1, 240), DB Bishop Carroll (5-11, 160). Top sophomore: DB Lentrell Rattiff (5-10, 160).

Other prospects: WR Collin Fannin-White, LB Giovanni Ayala, OL Lane Martin, DL Zaahir Brown, DL Eric Hernandez, DB Aiden Rutledge, TE Gabe Pattin, RB Mayan Washington.

2025 notes: Princeton made the rare leap from

District 6-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Braeden Imhoff, Prosper

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Ja'Prei Wafer, Allen

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Allen (6,947)
2. Prosper (3,450)
3. Plano East (5,346)
4. Plano (4,493)
5. McKinney (2,807)
6. Prosper Rock Hill (2,373)
7. McKinney Boyd (2,553)
8. Princeton (2,379)
9. Plano West (5,337.5)

5A Division II all the way to 6A in the last realignment and, as expected, endured some growing pains. The positive is 19 starters return, and Chandler expects major improvement for 2025. QB Flowers (3,201 yards, 31 TDs passing) is the straw that stirs the drink for the offense and is back for an encore after an outstanding junior season. ATH Mosley (55-868, 11 TDs receiving; 58 tackles, 5 INTs) is a force on both sides. Chandler calls him, "a special player." LB Rodriguez and junior DT Williams (33 tackles) are back to lead a defense that expects to be much better.

PROSPER EAGLES

Coach: Tyler Moore. Lettermen R/L: 37/29. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 8-3 DI bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Zaden Krempin (6-4, 280), DL Jake Johnson (6-2, 270), WR Lathon Latiolais (5-10, 175, 4.5), OL Bryce Gilmore (6-5, 280, 4.9), QB Braeden Imhoff (5-11, 170, 4.6), DB Tyson Stiggers (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Fahd Allan (6-0, 180, 4.6), WR Elliot Brown (6-3, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: TE/DE Jackson Kutz (6-2, 225).

Other prospects: WR Dallas Boozer, LB Cade Smallwood, S DK Jamison, DL Zac Manning, RB Bryce Robinson, TE/LB Trevor Ellis, OL Sean Stover, S Logan Thompson.

2025 notes: Prosper was knocked out of the first round of the playoffs by powerful Coppell a year ago but with 16 returning starters, Moore's squad could soar once again in 2025. Offensive line will be a major strength again with Krempin and Gilmore among the top recruits in the trenches nationally, and Stover, who is a Duke commit. QB Imhoff (2,631 yards, 27 TDs passing) is back to guide the offense and his top target Latiolais (56-792, 11 TDs receiving) is back. DL Johnson (61 tackles, 11 TFL, 6 sacks) has a big-time motor and holds over 20 FBS offers. The return of Stiggers, who missed most of 2024, will be a big boost to the secondary.

ROCK HILL BLUE HAWKS

Coach: Mark Wilkinson. Lettermen R/L: 17/34. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Bryce Allen (6-2, 180, 4.7), LB Max Wrobel (5-11, 215, 4.8), DT Keegan Brinton (5-10, 210, 4.9), DE Arthur Nersesyan (6-2, 205, 4.9), S Donyae Williams (5-9, 175, 4.7), WR Dominic Saidu (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Courtney Lawson (5-9, 180, 4.6), LB Riley Hinds (5-11, 215, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Myles Lyons (5-8, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Trevor Janak, OL Carter Crubaugh, DB Jackson Leslie, OL/DL Elijah Martin-Thomas, WR Leonidas Williams, DL Jaylen Dangerfield.

2025 notes: Fresh off its first-ever playoff appearance, Rock Hill will lean on a veteran defense that returns eight starters. LB Wrobel (61 tackles, 1 INT), DE Nersesyan (61 tackles, 6 sacks) and undersized but disruptive DT Brinton (49 tackles, 4 sacks) will be the key cogs for a veteran front seven. S Williams (53 tackles, 3 INTs) is a playmaker in the Blue Hawks' secondary. WR/DB Allen (29-459, 4 TDs receiving) will be the leader of an offense that has some holes to fill.

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 7-6A Preview

BERKNER RAMS

Coach: Trey Bryant. Lettermen R/L: 15/27. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-5/3-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH DaQuwan Dunn (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR Brayden Spinks (5-10, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Elijah Childress (6-0, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Jayin Talib (6-2, 250), WR Kamarri Davis (5-8, 160, 4.6), DB Mekhi Jessie (6-1, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Korde Foreman (6-0, 175, 4.5), RB Monte Nelson (5-10, 170, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR Elijah Henderson (5-8, 155, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Jameson Brown, LB Ricky McBride, LB Iyiola Oyewole, DB Traylor Mitchell, OL Darvis Whitlock, WR Foster Thames, RB/LB Tra Gason, OL Sezyn Sheppard.

2025 notes: The Rams missed out on the playoffs for the first time in three years and if they want to get back to the playoffs, Bryant says his young, talented team will need to mature. There's no shortage of skill talent on hand with the return of ATH Dunn, who can line up at QB, WR, RB and DB. He punts and can long snap in a pinch, as well! Young playmakers up from an 8-2 JV should be impact players with WR Spinks, WR/DB Childress and WR Foreman leading the young calvary. Bryant says his offensive line has a chance to be very good, but there are questions about settling on a signal-caller and finding some depth along the front seven of the defense.

IRVING TIGERS

Coach: Brent Nickerson. Lettermen R/L: 20/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jacob Henderson (5-10, 235), WR/CB Napoleon Proctor (5-9, 145), LB Kaetun James (6-3, 180), LB Taiden Jones (6-1, 160), CB Kamari Dove (6-1, 150), S La'Monte Walker (5-9, 150). Top juniors: RB/LB Fred Green (5-10, 170), WR/S Xavier Hurtado (5-10, 175). Top sophomore: RB Jayson Evans (5-8, 140).

Other prospects: OL Alexander Robles, OL/DL Aaron Garcia-Cordova, TE Brycen Grant, QB Elijah Garcia.

2025 notes: Irving struggled in Nickerson's first season, but improvement could be ahead for the Tigers who played 11 sophomores and two freshmen. Sophomore RB Evans (342 yards, 1 TD rushing; 6-128, 1 TD receiving) impressed a year ago as a freshman and could be the featured back running behind OL/DL Henderson (28 tackles, 6 TFL), who will be an anchor on both sides. WR/CB Proctor (200 yards, 3 TDs rushing) will be a force on the outside and in the secondary, while Nickerson says they are excited about the potential of junior LB James (30 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks). "Last year was a great opportunity for young guys to gain experience, and that will make them more confident this season," said Nickerson.

JESUIT RANGERS

Coach: Brandon Hickman. Lettermen R/L: 33/45. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Gabriel James (5-10, 195), ATH Beck Berry (6-1, 170), WR Shane Parker (5-10, 155), WR Harlan Beucler (6-0, 175), DL Parker Sherman (5-11, 250). Top juniors: LB Jackson Gair (6-1, 200, 4.6), WR Joseph Konings. Top sophomore: QB JP Livingstone (6-3, 180).

Other prospects: K Cooper McGough, DB Cabe Weissmueller.

2025 notes: The Rangers are one of the most consistent teams in DFW, and when they return a decent amount of starters, they often find themselves in district title contention. There's good depth on the outside with WR Parker (48-313, 3 TDs receiving; 209 yards, 1 TD rushing), Beucler (5-186, 1 TD receiving) and ATH Berry (17-184, 1 TD receiving). Berry could get a look at QB along with talented sophomore Livingstone. LB James (96 tackles, 4 TFL, 3 sacks) is back to lead the defensive unit after earning first-team all-district honors. DL Sherman (61 tackles, 2 TFL, 3 sacks) is the anchor of

a defensive line that Hickman says needs to develop some depth if they want to challenge in 7-6A.

LAKE HIGHLANDS WILDCATS

Coach: Cory Campbell. Lettermen R/L: 25/38. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 9-3 6A DI area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Christian Rhodes (6-2, 210, 4.5), S Lloyd Wyatt (5-11, 180, 4.5), LB Aaden Little (6-1, 180, 4.5), LB Jeremiah Jones (6-0, 210, 4.8), DL Peyton Nicholson (6-2, 255), OL Mason Bush (6-2, 285). Top juniors: S Holden Layne (6-1, 185, 4.6), RB Franklon Evans (6-2, 185, 4.6).

2025 notes: Lake Highlands rolled to a district title and nine wins before falling to Coppell in the area playoffs. The Wildcats were just eight points away from a 10-0 regular season after a pair of close losses in non-district. Campbell says most of the offense will be young, with one notable exception. RB Rhodes (1,377 yards, 14 TDs rushing) was a revelation as a junior and is back for an encore. He has colleges flocking to campus to get a look. OL Bush was outstanding a year ago as a sophomore and will lead a young offensive line. The defense up the middle will be outstanding with LB Jones (78 tackles), LB Little and S Wyatt (3 INTs) all returning for the Wildcats.

MACARTHUR CARDINALS

Coach: Beck Nitcholas. Lettermen R/L: 20/27. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/SS Banner Nitcholas (6-2, 190, 4.5), DB Rolando King (5-10, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Wyatt Davis (6-0, 195, 4.6), DL Archie Mitchell (6-2, 270, 4.9), OL Andrew Silvan (6-3, 275), FS Jayden Ngetich (5-9, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: QB Brock Casas-Willis (5-8, 155, 4.9), WR Derrick Washington (5-9, 155, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL/DL Omero Nitcholas (5-10, 265).

Other prospects: TE/DL Aaron Saenz, DB Jordan Seaworth, LB Tex Morris, OL Tim Cruz-Ortiz, ATH Gabriel Burnett, WR Collin Hernandez, WR Osaivibe Omlade, WR Timoty Banton.

2025 notes: The Cardinals will look to put themselves into the playoff discussion in 7-6A, as Nitcholas welcomes back six starters on both sides of the ball. Look for MacArthur to be dynamic in the passing game with the return of WR/SS Nitcholas (44-802, 14 TDs receiving; 301 yards, 3 TDs rushing), who was the district's utility player of the year. Junior QB Casas-Willis (2,280 yards, 21 TDs passing) stepped in last year as a sophomore and showed plenty of promise leading the offense. RB/LB Davis (308 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 38 tackles) started six games at RB and will be the featured back, and he'll see spot duty on defense. DL Mitchell (65 tackles, 5 TFL, 3 sacks) is strong and quick off the ball, while FS Ngetich (44 tackles) returns to lead the Cardinals in the secondary.

NIMITZ VIKINGS

Coach: Mark Small. Lettermen R/L: 9/38. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: DT Ke'Sean Price (6-1, 310), RB Jevon Woolfork (6-0, 180, 4.5), DE Messiah Ford (6-5, 210, 4.7), DE Devin Reynolds (6-3, 220, 4.8), RB Ta'barrae Smith (5-9, 185, 4.5), RB Jaylin Harris (5-10, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Aaron Alcala (6-4, 320), DT Bryan Guadian (6-0, 255).

Other prospects: LB Kevin Rodriguez, QB Cole Wallace.

2025 notes: The Vikings will be looking for a reset as Small's squad will have a lot of new faces with just nine lettermen returning. Nimitz is making the switch to the Slot-T offense and will have some good depth at running back with the return of RB Woolfork and Smith, while sophomore Harris is expected to play a key role, as well. On defense, the strength will certainly be along the defensive line with the return of sophomore DT Price (47 tackles, 4 sacks), who is already getting FBS interest. DEs Ford (31 tackles, 3 sacks) and Reynolds (49 tackles, 5 sacks)

District 7-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Christian Rhodes, Lake Highlands

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Gabriel James, Dallas Jesuit

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Richardson Lake Highlands (2,974)
2. Dallas Jesuit (2,294)
3. Richardson (2,775)
4. Richardson Berkner (2,349)
5. Richardson Pearce (2,476)
6. Irving MacArthur (2,734)
7. Irving Nimitz (2,541)
8. Irving (2,719)

return to give Nimitz some pieces to build around. Small says his team has had a good offseason, but inexperience along the offensive line and secondary are concerns.

PEARCE MUSTANGS

Coach: Jarrett Lambert. Lettermen R/L: 37/33. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 9-3 DII area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/S Jeremiah Lyons (5-10, 180, 4.6), DL Will Miltenberger (5-11, 225, 4.8), DB Nate Kinder (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Josh Devadoss (6-0, 180, 4.5), ATH Austin Griggs (6-4, 215, 4.6), OL Brady Servin (6-6, 255). Top juniors: DL Nathan Ginn (6-0, 235, 4.7), OL Koffi Kuakumensah (6-0, 245).

Other prospect: OL Aaron Martinez.

2025 notes: Pearce is fresh off a nine-win season, but nearly all of their offensive production has graduated as the Mustangs lost an all-state QB and RB along with four receivers who had over 50 receptions. The good news for PHS is the defense should be improved with seven returning starters, led by RB/S Lyons (111 tackles, 3 INTs), who had a monster junior season and will lead the secondary; he also returned two kicks for touchdowns and could slide to offense this year. DB Kinder (62 tackles, 4 INTs) also returns in the secondary, while speedy DL Miltenberger (48 tackles, 13 TFL, 7 sacks) returns to lead the Pearce pass-rush. ATH Griggs (12-187, 1 TD receiving) played TE a year ago, but could change positions and take over at QB in 2025.

RICHARDSON EAGLES

Coach: Kendrick Holloway. Lettermen R/L: 23/38. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-5 DI area finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Dameon Crowe (5-8, 160, 4.4), DT Jai'meon Winfield (6-4, 295), OL Jasper Ngokwere, CB Lovie Berry (6-0, 175, 4.5), QB Lucas Sawyer (6-1, 185, 4.9), TE Connor Gordon (6-1, 220, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Michael Swanks (6-2, 200, 4.7), DE Antrell Smith-Bowen (6-3, 245, 4.8). Top sophomore: DT Noah Ross (6-4, 295).

Other prospects: DB Michael Allen, OL Cash Moore, DB Chad Watson, OL Derrick Tague, LB Keyshon Warner, WR/DB Jayden Hernandez, RB Zach Breazeale, DE Jason Catchings.

2025 notes: It was a banner year for the Eagles in 2024, as they won their first playoff game since 1992. Holloway says losing 38 seniors hurts, but there are some key pieces back for another possible playoff push. WR Crowe (62-1,283, 14 TDs receiving) is one of the state's most explosive playmakers - if he gets a step on you, he's scoring. QB Sawyer (1,815 yards, 15 TDs receiving) will lead the offense, and the biggest question there will be developing consistency in the running game. USC commit DT Winfield (45 tackles, 22 TFL, 9 sacks) moved in from Mississippi last year and made a huge impact for the Eagles up front. His ability to draw attention will free up guys like junior LB Swanks to make plays.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

Coach Campbell's
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 8-6A Preview

ARLINGTON COLTS

Coach: Scott Peach. Lettermen R/L: 50/34. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-4 DII bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Coleman Cravens (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR Jamar Burton (5-9, 165, 4.5), OL Eli Holbrook (6-4, 290), DT Cam Gray (6-2, 260), LB Troy McDaniel (5-10, 185, 4.6), FS Derom Cunningham (6-2, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: FS AJ Payne (5-10, 175, 4.6), CB Semajai Davis (6-1, 155, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Kason Brown (6-1, 190, 4.5).

Other prospects: DE Hayden Bostick, RB Max Reviere, LB Luis Mendoza, OL Zach Bastas, OL Hank Taylor, CB Jacob Batiste, WR Canon Cambron, OL David Soto.

2025 notes: The Colts could be primed to challenge for the district title as Peach welcomes back a veteran group and extra depth will be added with strong subvarsity teams. QB Cravens (1,845 yards, 14 TDs passing) is back for a third year to pilot the offense. He has WR Burton (30-264 yards, 2 TDs receiving; 545 yards, 5 TDs rushing) back on offense and will work behind an experienced offensive line. Arlington has playmakers at all three levels of the defense with DT Gray (26 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 sacks), LB McDaniel (45 tackles) and FS Cunningham (30 tackles) all returning. Peach, the dean of DFW 6A head coaches (Year 23), says inexperience at WR is the big question going into the fall, so several talented sophomores could get a look to fill those spots.

BOWIE VOLUNTEERS

Coach: Joseph Sam. Lettermen R/L: 23/57. Starters returning O/D: 2/6. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Bryson Castile (6-3, 205, 4.6), LB Galatians Paogofie (6-1, 225, 4.7), WR Keidric Ousnde-Brown (5-9, 170, 4.6), S Kevin Baines (6-2, 190, 4.6), QB Jayden Bibbs (6-2, 200, 4.7), TE Brody Ferguson (6-3, 220, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Antonio Birdow (5-8, 170, 4.6), WR Maxwell Nichols (6-0, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: DL Mar'Chael Carter (5-11, 240).

Other prospects: WR/DB Princeton Campbell, DB Kyle Smith, RB Denzel Ponder, RB Joseph Campbell, DL Joseph Williams, LB Don Rivas, OL Willie Gay.

2025 notes: The Vols regained supremacy in Arlington ISD and 8-6A as they ran to a district title and a playoff win a year ago, but a large class of 57 seniors has moved on. Six starters are back on defense so expect Bowie to lean on that group, which is headlined by a pair of playmakers in LB Castile (59 tackles, 4 sacks) and LB Paogofie (57 tackles, 4 TFL, 3 sacks). S Baines (77 tackles, 1 INT) was a first-team all-district pick and will patrol the Bowie secondary. WRs Ousnde-Brown (36-439, 4 TDs receiving) and Birdow (42-547 yards, 5 TDs receiving) will be top targets for QB Bibbs (509 yards, 6 TDs passing) as he takes over the offense full-time in 2025. The biggest concern will be five new starters on the offensive line.

GRAND PRAIRIE GOPHERS

Coach: Kenchee Ross. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: N/A. 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: LB Jason Pereira (5-10, 165), WR/DB Mike Green (6-2, 170, 4.6), RB/DE Xavier Clinton (6-2, 215, 4.8), OL/DL Jacob Ochoa (6-0, 260), RB Jaylon Harrison (6-0, 175, 4.5), QB Payton Reis (5-10, 175, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Alessandro Hernandez (6-2, 28), OL Lueranze Miller (6-5, 340). Top sophomore: WR/DB Adrian Benms (5-11, 185, 4.5). Other prospects: WR/CB Joseph Seals, CB Jaiden Waits, WR Elijah Garrett, WR Reynaldo Rodriguez, RB Aiden Rice, S Cameron Ferguson.

2025 notes: New head coach Kenchee Ross comes to Grand Prairie after a successful stint at 5A Dallas White. He'll be taking on a full rebuild at GPHS, as the Gophers won just a single game last year and the JV went winless. WR/DB Green (30-403, 3 TDs receiving; 4 INTs) is a force for the Gophers on both sides of the ball and is the headliner - "a Saturday player," according to the coaching staff. QB Reis (859 yards, 5 TDs passing) started eight games as

a junior and returns, as well. LB Pereira (68 tackles) is the unquestioned leader of the defense as that unit will feature a lot of new faces. Ross says his top priority is gaining confidence and understanding in the new schemes.

HALTOM BUFFALOES

Coach: Jason Tucker. Lettermen R/L: 20/27. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Vurdrico Roberson (5-9, 180, 4.5), DE Damien Wayne (6-2, 225, 4.7), DB Brian Connors (6-0, 195, 4.6), QB Dominique Mounivong (5-9, 185, 4.6), LB Logan Lange (6-1, 210, 4.7), WR Matthew Turner (5-9, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: RB/DB Kyle Parks (5-9, 175, 4.6), RB Keyan Parks (5-9, 180, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB KJ Parks (5-11, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: DE Micah McIntyre, OL Amier Saadalla, DL Mario Vasquez, QB Gage Seely, LB Jaxon Cornue, OL David Perez, OL Juan Campos, OL Carlos Gonzalez.

2025 notes: Haltom surprised many by making the playoffs a year ago and the Buffalos have the pieces in place to once again be firmly in the playoff mix. RB Roberson (1,683 yards, 17 TDs rushing) is one of the more underrated backs in DFW and is a big play waiting to happen. QB Mounivong (255 yards, 1 TD passing) started the first three games a year ago before an injury ended his season. The defense is led by athletic DE Wayne (13 TFL, 6 sacks) and DB Connors (72 tackles, 3 INTs). LB Lange (39 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT) is back after a second-team all-district season a year ago. Tucker says depth and inexperience in the secondary are big concerns going into 2025.

LAMAR VIKINGS

Coach: Billy Skinner. Lettermen R/L: 30/32. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Braylon Williams (6-2, 220, 4.6), WR/DB Shaharim Thurston (6-1, 175, 4.5), WR Khamil Pruitt (6-3, 175, 4.4), RB/DB Xian Johnson (5-11, 170, 4.6), DL Marquis Reis (6-0, 285), OL Samari Wilkins (6-1, 290). Top sophomore: QB Jayden Shaw (6-3, 175, 4.6), OL Graham Partee (6-1, 240).

Other prospects: OL Ja'Kadyn Williams, OL Jaylan Williams, P AJ Thomson, DE Christian King, TE/DE Jermarcus Thomas, DL Adrian Davis, DB Javin Bass, TE/LB Tallan Martinez.

2025 notes: The Vikings are looking to break a playoff drought that goes back to 2019 and after playing a dozen sophomores and returning four of five offensive linemen, Skinner thinks 2025 has potential for a breakthrough. Defense will be the strength early with the return of junior LB Williams (151 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 INT) who is one of the state's top recruits in the class of 2027. WR/DB Thurston (49 tackles, 3 INTs) had a big sophomore debut and is getting big-time FBS interest; he could jump in and contribute on offense, as well. RB/DB Johnson (64 tackles, 15 TFL, 2 sacks, 3 INTs) was the district newcomer of the year. WR Pruitt (25-385, 5 TDs receiving) is the headliner on offense, while the staff is excited about the potential of junior QB Shaw.

MARTIN WARRIORS

Coach: Chad Rives. Lettermen R/L: 18/34. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/3-4 district.

Players to watch: DE Jesse Ford (6-5, 255, 4.8), OL Brandon Heath (6-4, 280), RB Javien Jones-Priest (5-10, 185, 4.5), WR Kevin Grant (6-0, 185, 4.5), WR Chance Tealer (6-1, 180, 4.6), DB Jordan Talley (5-11, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: QB Hunter Squires (6-1, 170, 4.7), DB Eli Cooper (5-10, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL Michael Van (6-2, 300).

Other prospects: OL Dreyln Riggie, OL Chase Shaw-Mathis, WR Ricky Montgomery, ATH Trintavious Hayes, LB Eli Johnson, LB Ahira Okoroafor, RB/LB Julian DeLoera, DB Jace Daniels.

2025 notes: The Warriors fell to just three wins a year ago and missed out on the playoffs for the first time since 2005. Rives thinks there's a good chance for a return to the playoffs and district contention with a dozen returning starters and help from a 9-1

District 8-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Daylon Brooks, South Grand Prairie

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Jesse Ford, Arlington Martin

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Arlington Bowie (2,598)
2. Arlington Martin (3,779)
3. South Grand Prairie (3,594.5)
4. Arlington (2,651)
5. Arlington Lamar (2,646)
6. Haltom (2,765)
7. Grand Prairie (3,158.5)
8. Arlington Sam Houston (3,804)

JV bunch. Martin's strength on the offense will be up front where they have three starters returning, led by OL Heath, who moves really well for a player his size. RB Jones-Priest along with WRs Grant and Tealer gives the Warriors a lot of sizzle at the skill positions. The defense is headlined by TCU commit DE Ford, who is one of the state's top defensive prospects. "We have no choice but to be better," says Rives, who cites leadership and chemistry as keys to his team's potential in 2025.

SAM HOUSTON TEXANS

Coach: Chris James. Lettermen R/L: 25/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Ahmad Young (5-10, 255), LB Jayden Scurlock (6-1, 205, 4.6), OL Josiah Elim (6-1, 235), DB Isaiah Terrell (6-3, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: ATH Carmelo Stokes (5-10, 185, 4.6), WR Chance Price (5-11, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Jorden Washington (5-10, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Chiemela Uwalaka-Ekennia, WR Marquez Lewis, WR Sirtone Mangram.

2025 notes: The Texans will lean on their physicality in the trenches to try and push into the playoff mix in the Arlington ISD heavy 8-6A. OL/DL Young is a two-way lineman who is extremely quick and agile for a player at his size, and he's disruptive defensively. OL Elim is another undersized but quick player who fits well in Sam Houston's spread bone offensive attack. ATH Stokes, WR Price and sophomore WR Washington are all dynamic players in space. LB Scurlock (93 tackles) is a prototype player who has great size, but combines that size with elite sideline-to-sideline speed. DB Terrell is a long and rangy player in the secondary with good enough size to help in run support.

SOUTH GRAND PRAIRIE WARRIORS

Coach: Laban DeLay. Lettermen R/L: 28/22. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Daylon Brooks (5-10, 180), QB Ryan Goss (6-3, 210), RB Josiah Lucas (5-9, 180), WR/DB Cade Wallace (6-0, 175), LB Anthony Ellis (5-10, 180), LB Noah Adams (5-9, 185). Top junior: DL Noah Kennedy (6-3, 225). Top sophomore: TE/LB Kevin Leonard (6-0, 185).

Other prospects: RB Josh Armendarez, LB Jedrick Russell, WR Cash Clark, WR Amari Wyatt, LB Bo Chewing.

2025 notes: SGP slipped to three district losses a year ago, but DeLay believes the Warriors can challenge for the district title with an experienced squad returning. QB Brooks (2,000 yards, 26 total TDs) is back to lead the offense, but keep an eye on junior QB Goss, who has a ton of arm talent. RB Lucas (1,519 yards, 20 TDs rushing) is dynamic in the ground game and gives the offense plenty of balance. WR/DB Wallace (46-768, 11 TDs receiving; 35 tackles, 4 INTs) gets things done on both sides of the ball, while SGP features two of 8-6A's most productive playmakers at LB in Ellis (121 tackles, 4 sacks) and Adams (106 tackles, 11 TFL, 4 sacks). DeLay says depth at all positions is one of the big concerns.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 9-6A Preview

GARLAND OWLS

Coach: Danny Russell. Lettermen R/L: 27/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: DE Cade McKay (6-4, 240, 4.9), WR/DB Caleb Ibeneme (6-2, 185, 4.5), WR Saint Dickens (6-3, 170, 4.6), LB Aiden Onchwari (6-1, 210, 4.7), CB Colton Dunbarger (6-3, 170, 4.7), TE/DE Kaden James (6-3, 225, 4.8). Top juniors: RB Sam Marshall (5-10, 205, 4.9), OL/LB Caleb Riba-Riba (5-9, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/LB Kaden Satchell (6-0, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Trevor Hoskins, QB Carlos Mojica, WR Kengbay Yahya, WR/LB Adam Rotich, LB Caden Flowers, WR/DB Andrew Nguyen, LB Locorrian Sams, DB Tim Foster.

2025 notes: The Owls nearly pulled off a surprise playoff appearance with a young and inexperienced team a year ago, and this year Garland expects to again challenge with seven starters back on both sides of the ball. Garland has a veteran group of pass catchers, led by Ibeneme (22-324, 4 TDs receiving), Dickens (17-154, 1 TD receiving) and TE James (17-165, 1 TD receiving). Junior RB Marshall saw a bit of time last year and will be a factor in 2025 with his physical running style. Garland's defense is led by three-year starter LB Onchwari (60 tackles, 11 TFL, 6 sacks), who is a two-time first-team all-district selection. "Our front line players are really strong, but we don't have a lot of depth," said Russell.

LAKEVIEW CENTENNIAL PATRIOTS

Coach: Anthony Sainclair. Lettermen R/L: 20/24. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: DB Montre Jackson (6-1, 175), DL Khing Thibodeaux (6-3, 230), LB Jason Freeman (6-0, 180), DL Jaxson Wilson (6-2, 235), OL Valentine Akidi (6-2, 270), DB Carson Wilson (6-0, 165). Top juniors: LB Clint Ingram (6-1, 215), QB Dakari Jernigan (5-11, 160). Top sophomore: OL Cameron May (6-4, 245).

Other prospects: LB Ja'Keon Nwabako, WR George Ziglar III, LB Christian Joiner, RB Prince Guerro, RB De'marion Miller, DL Alec Coleman, DB Desmond Ford Jr., WR John Robinson.

2025 notes: Coach Sainclair believes the Patriots will be back in the playoff race and says they have a bigger and faster team than a year ago. The defense is where the bulk of the experience returns, as DB Jackson (45 tackles, 2 INTs) is back to pace the secondary and make an impact in the return game where he returned a kick for a score in 2024. Junior DB Wilson (30 tackles) also returns after a strong sophomore season. LB Freeman (95 tackles) led the team in tackles, while DLs Thibodeaux (60 tackles, 12 sacks) and Wilson (65 tackles, 10 sacks) return. QB Jernigan (207 yards, 5 TDs passing) will lead the offense after seeing limited action as a sophomore.

NAAMAN FOREST RANGERS

Coach: Jesse Perales. Lettermen R/L: 26/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/4-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/SS Braylon Deal (6-4, 175, 4.6), DT Jaylon Johnson (6-1, 300, 4.8), WR/S Brody Perales (6-0, 185, 4.7), CB Troy Williams (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL Isaiah Wesley (6-1, 310), TE/DE Corey Thomas (6-2, 220, 4.7). Top juniors: DT Cruz DeLeon (5-11, 275), CB Devin Washington (6-2, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: QB Ja'ki Robinson (6-3, 190, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Julian Johnson, TE/LB Ty Belshe, OL Khyree Willoughby, WR Jeremiah Williams, FS Marco Rodriguez, RB John Kamara, WR Zae Williams, RB/DB EJ Hamilton.

2025 notes: The Rangers were able to slip into the playoffs a year ago and nearly pulled off a massive upset on the road in the bi-district playoffs. Perales believes his team will be even stronger this year with 13 returning starters and help from a JV team that was 6-2. WR/SS Deal (49-855, 10 TDs receiving; 58 tackles, 3 INTs) is a two-way all-district performer, while sophomore WR/S Perales (20-394, 2 TDs receiving; 53 tackles, 2 INTs) is back after a tremendous freshman season. Junior DT Johnson (24 tackles) will be the anchor in the middle of the defense, while junior CBs Williams and Washington return after strong sophomore varsity debuts. Perales says inexperience on the offensive line and at QB are big questions going into 2025.

NORTH GARLAND RAIDERS

Coach: Taurus Rucker. Lettermen R/L: 33/8. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Christian Hampton (6-0, 180, 4.5), ATH Juju Minor (6-0, 185, 4.5), WR/DB Chris Hampton (6-1, 185, 4.5), OL/DL Brandon Onyaa (6-5, 280), RB/DB DeMarcus Mathes, Jr. (5-11, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Jonathan Menjivar (5-11, 250). Top juniors: WR/DB Prosper Chukwu (5-10, 170, 4.5), WR/DB Alan Abernathy (6-2, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL Kenny Nguyen (6-2, 230).

Other prospects: WR/DB Gavin Johnson, TE/DE Zarren Willis, TE/DE David Ekanem, TE/LB JaVonte Brown, WR/DB Brian Johnson, LB Kainoa Kahanu, WR/DB Reyan Seman, DB Raul Puata.

2025 notes: There's no place to go but up for the Raiders in 2025 as NGHS went with a youth movement a year ago and took some lumps; the good news is 20 starters are back with a ton of varsity experience. A strong junior class leads the way, led by QB Hampton (1,366 yards, 12 TDs passing) and ATH Minor, who had over 1,000 yards of total offense and seven touchdowns. Senior WR Hampton (620 yards, 4 TDs receiving) is a big and physical target who can make tough catches. Junior RB/DB Mathes, Jr. (32 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 sack, 2 INTs) had a strong sophomore season and will be a leader for the Raiders defense. Rucker said there's good experience, but concerns about depth and overall numbers are still there.

ROWLETT EAGLES

Coach: Derek Alford. Lettermen R/L: 28/24. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: S Keyshaun Harrison (5-11, 195, 4.7), S Adrian Lacy (5-11, 180, 4.5), DL Grady Holmes (6-3, 285, 4.9), RB Kelin Cottrell (5-7, 175, 4.5), QB Sam Loera (6-2, 210, 4.9), RB/CB Braxton Moore (5-11, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Jordan Griffin (6-0, 180, 4.6), TE Rhyann Hamilton (6-4, 200, 4.7). Top sophomore: LB Khali Smith (5-11, 200, 4.5).

Other prospects: ATH River Kirkhuff, WR Braylon Griffith, WR Jordan Jones, RB Peyton Keller.

2025 notes: Alford's squad remains competitive in 9-6A but after making the playoffs 14 straight years from 2005-2018, the Eagles have yet to taste postseason football. If they are going to get it done in 2025, it'll be with a young squad as just five starters return. Team speed will be a strength for the Eagles with a pair of playmakers in the secondary leading the way in S Harrison (63 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 sack) and S Lacy (28 tackles, 1 INT). DL Holmes (46 tackles, 13 TFL, 5 sacks) never played football before 2024 and immediately earned first-team all-district honors. Junior QB Loera (1,413 yards, 10 TDs passing) showed a lot of promise as a sophomore and should be primed to take a step forward.

SACHSE MUSTANGS

Coach: Mark Behrens. Lettermen R/L: 28/37. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 9-2 DI bi-district finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Dirk Merrill (5-10, 175, 4.6), WR Hekma Harrison (6-2, 180, 4.5), WR Ben Wright (6-2, 215, 4.8), CB Chace Wesley (5-10, 165, 4.6), DE Julian Cole (6-1, 265, 4.9), DE Alex Davis (6-1, 245). Top juniors: OL/DL Trason Haley (6-3, 305), LB Walker Williams (5-11, 200, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Kaleb Bass (5-10, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Brett Hough, OL Eli Clark, LB Nicco Ward, LB Corbin Crane, FS Austin Taylor, RB Roderick Rainwater, WR Marcus Rhoden, CB Qua'mari Thomas.

2025 notes: The Mustangs rolled to a district title and have firmly established themselves as the top team in Garland ISD, but playoff success eluded Sachse a year ago. Thirty-seven seniors and six FBS signees have moved on, leaving the Mustangs reliant on players from a 7-3 JV squad to mature quickly. QB Merrill (1,601 yards, 17 TDs passing) is back to direct the offense and senior WRs Harrison and Wright will be counted on to emerge as leaders on the outside. Two-way OL/DL Haley (62 tackles, 2 sacks) had a great sophomore season and will be a rare two-way starter at the 6A level. DE Cole (40 tackles) and junior LB Williams (49 tackles) will be key as they return with varsity experience.

SOUTH GARLAND TITANS

Coach: Antwan Hobbs. Lettermen R/L: 11/16.

District 9-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Amarean Porter, Wylie East

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

SS Braylon Deal, Naaman Forest

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Wylie East (2,689.5)
2. Garland Sachse (2,908)
3. Garland Naaman Forest (2,079)
4. Wylie (3,152)
5. Garland (2,449)
6. Lakeview Centennial (2,128)
7. Garland Rowlett (2,280)
8. North Garland (2,781)
9. South Garland (1,973)

Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DE Javion Coffman (6-2, 220, 4.7), DL Andres De La Cruz (6-1, 255, 4.8), WR/DB Mario Pardino (6-0, 165, 4.5), LB Aaron Cardens (5-10, 210, 4.7).

2025 notes: It's been a struggle for the Titans in recent years, but they showed signs of life in 2024 by winning the most games in a single season since 2012. New coach Hobbs, a South Garland alum, hopes to change that — he's got championship pedigree as Duncanville's running backs coach. There will be a lot of questions heading into 2025, especially on the offensive side of the ball where graduation losses were plentiful. South Garland's defense will be the team's strength with the return of a stout line anchored by DE Coffman, who had six sacks a year ago. LB Cardenas (50 tackles, 1 sack) also returns, while WR/DB Pardino showed promise while spending most of 2024 in the secondary.

WYLIE PIRATES

Coach: Jimmy Carter. Lettermen R/L: 30/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Daylon Gordon (5-10, 175), QB Jabirran Blake (5-11, 180), WR Samuel Acquaye (6-0, 175), OL Teslim Bsuari (6-4, 250), DB Chase Grandy (5-10, 170). Top juniors: OL Ben Larbi, WR/DB Checathi Nwokedi. Top sophomore: WR/DB Trey Pierce.

2025 notes: The Pirates return 30 lettermen from a playoff team a year ago and there's some intriguing young talent in the pipeline as help from a 7-3 JV bunch looks ready to chip in. RB Gordon (1,034 yards, 15 TDs rushing) is an FBS prospect who can break a big run at any moment. Junior QB Blake (275 yards, 2 TDs passing) is a talented operator of the offense, who will step in full-time. "He's a Division I-caliber QB," said Carter. Junior WR Acquaye (21-281, 1 TD receiving) is a dynamic talent and could emerge as a real weapon for the offense, as well. The offensive line is anchored by Bsuari and Larbi, a pair of talented juniors.

WYLIE EAST RAIDERS

Coach: Marcus Gold. Lettermen R/L: 23/31. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 10-2 DII area finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Amarean Porter (6-0, 160, 4.5), TE/DE Nash Chapman (6-4, 250, 4.7), OL/DT Daniel Oparah (6-4, 290), CB Ruke Eruvwetaghwa (6-1, 175, 4.5), S Noah Janshego (9-5, 175, 4.6), WR Amir Porter (6-3, 160, 4.5), RB Iniobong Ekpo (5-7, 175, 4.5), OL Charles Burkart (6-4, 295), RB Keve'yon Thorne, OL Jordan Grogan, WR Baribe King, OL Brayden Parrish, WR Toi Ardoin, ATH Jon Connelly, LB Brysan Muller, LB Braydn Muller.

2025 notes: The Raiders will once again challenge for a district title in 2025 after back-to-back 10-win seasons under Gold. The WR group, led by WR Amarean Porter (60-1,050, 12 TDs receiving) and WR Amir Porter (25-420, 3 TDs receiving), "is the best I've coached," Gold said. OL/DT Oparah is the most talented interior player and could be used on both sides of the ball. TE/DE Chapman (60 tackles, 9 sacks) is an elite pass rusher off the edge, while the secondary returns good experience with CB Eruvwetaghwa (30 tackles) and S Janshego (60 tackles). Gold says inexperience at LB is a question mark, and the Raiders must decide on a QB.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 10-6A Preview

FORNEY JACKRABBITS

Coach: Jeff Fleener. Lettermen R/L: 33/29. Starters returning O/D: 7/5 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Javian Osborne (5-10, 195, 4.5), QB Nelson Peterson Jr. (6-3, 190, 4.6), LB Landry Hopkins (5-11, 215, 4.7), WR Imani Jehiel (6-0, 180, 4.5), WR Preston Jackson (6-0, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Jordan Carraway (6-5, 305), OL Mason Joshua (6-5, 255). Top sophomore: RB Taylen Strange (5-7, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Xzavier Young, TE Kade Wolverton, DL Preston Boma.

2025 notes: Fleener is hopeful an explosive offense can carry the Jackrabbits to greater heights in a deep district. RB Osborne (1,239 yards, 22 TDs rushing; 10-167, 3 TDs receiving) is one of the top RBs in the country with every tool in the bag, including elite ability as a receiver. QB Peterson Jr. (2,318 yards, 26 TDs passing; 739 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a dual-threat who made big strides as a passer a year ago. WRs Jehiel (26-616, 7 TDs receiving) and Jackson (27-424, 7 TDs receiving) are back to give Forney some of the top playmakers in the state. LB Hopkins (74 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 INT) returns after missing the final six games of 2024.

HEATH HAWKS

Coach: Rodney Webb. Lettermen R/L: 35/32. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Zeke Cannon (6-2, 220, 4.7), OL Marcus Saavedra (6-2, 275), WR Shawn Gary (5-10, 170, 4.5), CB Quincy Jones (5-9, 175, 4.5), DB Dylan McCann (6-3, 180, 4.6), ATH Luke Mitchell (5-11, 215, 4.5). Top juniors: ATH Carter Zahm (6-2, 200, 4.5), LB Landon Foster (6-2, 215, 4.5). Top sophomore: DE Jarrett Simpson (6-0, 225, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB Prosper Neal, K Bronson Mueller, RB Bryan Ouamba, LB Carson Adams, WR Christian Contreras, DT Eddie Murphy, DB Keethan Jones, DB Colton Laughery.

2025 notes: WR Gary (52-655, 6 TDs receiving) is a force on the outside, while the return of ATH Zahm could be a huge difference as he missed eight games with an injury last year. LB Cannon (67 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) is the ringleader of the defense, but watch out for junior LB Foster (22 tackles, 11 TFL, 4 sacks), who Webb says could be a national level recruit. The secondary looks to be in good shape with the return of CB Jones (30 tackles, 2 INTs) and DB McCann (54 tackles, 1 INT).

LEGACY RED RAIDERS

Coach: Beau Trahan. Lettermen R/L: 34/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: OL Demarrion Johnson (6-7, 315), DB Ethan Brown (6-0, 205, 4.5), QB Zach Davis (6-0, 195, 4.7), LB Jacob Harris (5-10, 215, 4.8), WR/CB Zion Alexander (5-8, 170, 4.5), OL Eric Miller (6-2, 320). Top juniors: TE Von Lane (6-4, 240, 4.8), WR Takaiden Brown (5-11, 185, 4.5).

Other prospects: RB Jace Love, LB Austin Humber, TE Beau Slaughter, DL Luke Allen, RB Corey Ransom, DE Ramone Gabriel, OL Nathan Power, DL Hector Romo.

2025 notes: The Red Raiders will look to climb back into the playoff race in a deep 11-6A on the strength of QB Davis (2,158 yards, 15 TDs passing) returning along with junior WR Brown (13-168, 2 TDs receiving). OL Johnson is a Power Four recruit and is the anchor up front, along with OL Miller. They'll block for RB Love, who ran for nine scores a year ago. Legacy's defense will be led by DB Brown (105 tackles, 2 INTs) and LB Harris (90 tackles, 4 TFL). Trahan loves the depth in his junior class.

LONGVIEW LOBOS

Coach: John King. Lettermen R/L: 35/33. Starters returning: 3/6. 2024: 12-3 DII state semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Krystin Williams (5-11, 315, 5.2), LB Jessier Hampton-Williams (6-0, 190, 4.5), WR Jaden Hurndon (6-2, 175, 4.5), OL Jayden Jackson (6-1, 255, 5.0), DB Da'Kayden Carter (5-11, 170, 4.5), QB Johnny Hamilton (6-3, 205, 4.7). Top juniors: TE Jayden Washington (6-0, 200, 4.8), DL Tyson Johnson (6-3, 240, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Jacaiden Davis (5-11, 185, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR Jace Peterson, OL Beckett Cox, RB Mason Washington, RB Javarion Pereira, DB Robert White, DL Jaden Woolridge, DB Bradley Williams.

2025 notes: Any concerns about the Lobos moving back to the 6A ranks were put to rest with a 12-win season and a trip to the semifinals. Another deep playoff run isn't out of the question — it never is at Longview — but replacing a record-breaking RB, four of five OL and three all-state LBs won't be easy. QB Hamilton (530 yards, 4 TDs passing) became a starter in the second playoff game and flashed major potential. WR Hurndon (13-109 yards, 1 TD receiving) is only the second Lobo in the past 25 years to play on the varsity as a freshman. OL Jackson was a 15-game starter as a sophomore and is an excellent run-blocker and pass-blocker. LB Hampton-Williams (58 tackles, 10 TFL, 3 sacks) has great speed.

District 10-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Javian Osborne, Forney

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Krystin Williams, Longview

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Longview (2,280)
2. Rockwall (2,911)
3. North Forney (2,579)
4. Rockwall-Heath (2,964)
5. Forney (2,482)
6. Tyler Legacy (2,648)
7. Royse City (2,725)

NORTH FORNEY FALCONS

Coach: Marcus Shavers. Lettermen R/L: 42/28. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 8-4 DI area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Legend Bey (6-1, 190, 4.4), CB Ryan Gilbert II (6-1, 185, 4.5), WR Elijah Otieno (5-10, 170, 4.5), CB Bryson Fleming (6-1, 180, 4.6), RB Andikan Asuquo (6-0, 190, 4.5), LB J'ynv Williams (6-2, 225, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Briceson Thrower (6-3, 180, 4.5), LB Ar'Modd Alexander (6-3, 215, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Braylin Perkins (5-10, 175, 4.4).

Other prospects: DB Josiah Turner, OL Collis Grisby, DL Matthew Garcia, OL Marcus Page, WR Braydon Fleming, LB Kobe Jackson, DL Dazmean Bryant, RB Cordai Woodard.

2025 notes: It was an impressive debut for Shavers at North Forney as the Falcons made their second straight area round playoff appearance; they're a true contender in Region II. QB Bey (1,508 yards, 8 TDs passing; 1,927 yards, 28 TDs rushing) is one of the state's most dynamic playmakers and is a big play waiting to happen. He'll lead the offense and has talent around him with WR Otieno (40-820, 10 TDs receiving) and RB Asuquo (854 yards, 7 TDs rushing). The secondary will be North Forney's strength on defense with the return of CBs Gilbert and Fleming, while LB Williams has all the tools to be a real difference maker for the Falcons.

ROCKWALL YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Trey Brooks. Lettermen R/L: 35/45. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-6 DI area finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/CB Jack Duckworth (6-1, 170, 4.5), FS Will Ashworth (5-11, 180, 4.6), TE/DE Jackson Stoner (6-4, 235, 4.9), TE Jett Lamb (6-4, 225, 4.8), CB Zaidun Edwards (5-11, 160, 4.7), CB A.J. Brown (5-11, 165, 4.5), OL Ky-Mani Angilau-Talaga (6-2, 250), DL Wade Day (6-3, 230), WR Ryan Wiley (6-0, 170, 4.6), QB Brent Rickert, RB AJ Hatcher, RB Kaydon Castro, WR Jaiden Petrino, LB Jai'Christian Washington, LB Christian Lawyer, WR Luke Leach, DL Bryce Robinson.

2025 notes: Rockwall, by its standards, had its share of struggles a year ago and still managed to get to the area playoffs. Brooks believes improved depth at most positions will be key to improvement and possible district title contention. WR/CB Duckworth (34-472, 5 TDs receiving; 1 INT) is an FBS commit and capable of making an impact on both sides of the ball. TE/DE Stoner and TE Lamb are back and can give RHS plenty of versatility on the offensive side of the ball. The Rockwall secondary will be the strength of the defense with FS Ashworth (104 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 INT), CB Edwards (28 tackles, 2 INTs) and CB Brown (16 tackles, 1 INT) all returning. Junior DL Day (18 tackles) saw action as a sophomore and should be a key piece of the Jackets defense.

ROYSE CITY BULLDOGS

Coach: Andrew Colvin. Lettermen R/L: 28/32. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Kemarion Clarke (5-10, 170, 4.5), S John Abrams (6-1, 175, 4.5), OL Isaac Martin (6-3, 280), TE Hudson Hays (6-4, 245, 4.8), QB Jamion Richardson (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Kyran Reyes (6-2, 230, 4.6), DT Caden Williams (5-11, 255, 4.9), OL Joseph Gamez (6-10, 400), DE Kingston Rodgers (6-2, 225, 4.8), DE Izzy Mendoza, RB Xavier Watson, LB DeMarcus Johnson, WR Bryson Arney, S Teagan Woods, CB Brandon Derrough, RB Xavier Brown, OL Kurene Ma'o.

2025 notes: WR Clarke (30-602, 5 TDs receiving) is the key playmaker on the outside for QB Richardson (1,125 yards, 12 TDs passing). OL Martin is the anchor for the Bulldogs in the trenches. S Abrams (21 tackles, 1 INT) is a force on defense and special teams where he blocked two kicks, while junior DT Williams (58 tackles, 7 TFL) is a force on the inside. Look for big things from sophomores DE Rodgers, WR Arney, S Woods, CB Derrough and OL Ma'o, who all could be Friday night contributors for the next three years.



Demarrion
JOHNSON
OL
Tyler Legacy



Alonzo
WELCH
S
Mesquite Horn



Kohen
BROWN
WR
Waxahachie



Lathan
WHISENTON
RB
Hewitt Midway

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 11-6A Preview

CEDAR HILL LONGHORNS

Coach: Nick Ward. Lettermen R/L: 27/28. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DE Jalen Brewster (6-4, 280), OL Bryan Johnson (6-6, 335), OL RJ Richard (6-3, 265), QB Omowale Muhammad (6-0, 175), DT Desman Manuel (6-2, 290), LB Kenneth Youngblood (6-2, 210). Top juniors: DE Jalen Price (6-4, 235), RB Juelz Carter (5-11, 190). Top sophomore: WR Trenton Jones (6-0, 175).

Other prospects: WR Emarian Bagley, WR Braylon Caston, LB Damon Bennett, S Jeremiah Hobbs, QB Jaiden Mitchell, DT Phirrell Spencer, TE Gabriel Berliner.

2025 notes: After a smashing debut season that saw the 'Horns advance to the regional final, 2024 was rough for Ward's squad as CHHS stumbled to three wins. He says a hungry group of newcomers are ready to make a name for themselves. Once again, it starts up front where the Longhorns should be stout with the return of OLs Johnson and Richard. The defensive line is no slouch either, with DE Brewster and DT Manuel as anchors up front. There's a lot of young talent at the skill spots, but much of it is unproven. The staff likes the potential of junior RB Carter and sophomore WR Jones, as both could be impact newcomers. "We have some youth, so we need to get those guys adjusted to varsity play quickly," said Ward.

DESOTO EAGLES

Coach: Claude Mathis. Lettermen R/L: 24/45. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 11-3 DII region finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Ethan Feaster (6-2, 175, 4.5), RB Myson Johnson-Cook (6-2, 225, 4.5), RB SaRod Baker (5-9, 190, 4.5), DE DJ Rumph (6-1, 225, 4.7), S Jordan Stevens (6-2, 165, 4.5), LB Jace Hill-Douglas (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: DT Aaden Minor (5-11, 275), OL Elijah Andrews (6-0, 280). Top sophomore: QB Micah Lewis (5-11, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Legend Howell, DT Cortez Reagor, WR Antron Edmundson, TE Mark Duffy, CB Ayden Marshall, DE Poe Siavii, OL Jebralon Stewart, DE Ja'Den Randle.

2025 notes: After back-to-back state titles, DeSoto saw its playoff winning streak end at 15 at the hands of Longview in the regional finals. Mathis believes his team is ready to again contend for a state title with a dynamic nucleus of talent, headlined by WR Feaster (55-835, 13 TDs receiving), who is among the top WRs in the country. RBs Johnson-Cook (911 yards, 14 TDs rushing) and Baker (522 yards, 9 TDs rushing; 43-478, 4 TDs receiving) will give the Eagles plenty of firepower. Junior DE Rumph (6 sacks) will be the primary pass rusher, while S Stevens (31 tackles, 1 INT) will lead a young, talented group in the secondary. Mathis says consistency in the passing game and shoring up some holes on the offensive line will be big keys going into the fall.

DUNCANVILLE PANTHERS

Coach: Reginald Samples. Lettermen R/L: 29/24. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 13-1 DI state semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Zachery Turner (6-3, 215, 4.5), DE KJ Ford (6-3, 240, 4.7), WR Ayson Theus (5-9, 175, 4.4), DE Landon Barnes (6-4, 245, 4.7), DB Braylon Edwards (6-0, 185, 4.5), LB Jaylyn Manning (6-1, 230, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Trenton Yancey (6-0, 180, 4.5), OL Aiden Williams (6-5, 280). Top sophomore: DB Brayden Arnold (5-11, 185, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Dylan Williams, WR Emmanuel Ellison, TE Armand Walton, DB Kelen Tryon, LB Yusuf Adegbite, OL Aris Preston.

2025 notes: After back-to-back state titles, the Panthers were dethroned in a classic state semifinal by North Crowley a year ago. The headliners from that team are gone, but make no mistake, Duncanville is still a contender to win the state title. The Panthers will feature a trio of future FBS WRs in Turner (58-933, 14 TDs receiving), Theus and Yancey. The pass rush should be dynamic with the return of DE Ford (57 tackles, 7 sacks) and Barnes. LB Manning (134 tackles) is a force, while DB Edwards is the latest in

a long line of talented DBs to come out of Duncanville. The big question marks for Duncanville will be replacing a three-year starter at QB and youth on the offensive line.

HORN JAGUARS

Coach: Vernon Hughes. Lettermen R/L: 20/43. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Kole Seaton (6-6, 275), S Alonzo Welch (6-2, 190, 4.6), LB Kamryn Williams (6-0, 205, 4.7), S Malachi Youngblood (5-10, 170, 4.5), QB CJ Daughtry (5-10, 175, 4.6), OL Robert Terry (6-2, 345). Top juniors: CB Ja'Varris Williams (6-1, 180, 4.6), DE Alberto Payne (6-1, 225, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR Jaiden Wines (5-11, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Donnie Durham, DL Dre'Lon Irons, ATH Kaleb Norman, K/P Jeremiah Guarnero, K Norjain Gonzalez, DL Chaska Martin, TE/DE Omari Samuels.

2025 notes: The Jaguars will have a lot of new faces in 2025 as 43 lettermen have graduated, and they'll have a new head coach in Hughes, fresh off a successful stint at Plaquemine Weiss. There's still plenty of outstanding front-line talent on hand with OL Seaton, who is the latest in the line of elite linemen from Horn. S Welch is an FBS talent along with LB Williams (100 tackles, 12 TFL, 2 INTs), who was a first-team all-district pick. QB Daughtry (1,705 yards, 15 TDs passing) was outstanding as a junior, and has a lot of new faces at the skill spots at his disposal. Watch out for sophomore WR Wines, who is an outstanding talent and could emerge as the No. 1 receiver.

LANCASTER TIGERS

Coach: Leon Paul. Lettermen R/L: 29/28. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 5-7 DII area finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Izayah Lee (5-11, 190), ATH James Foster (6-2, 200), CB Victor Lincoln (6-0, 170), RB Victor Scott (6-0, 195), DL Jebrelin Fisher (6-2, 210), WR Sir Eric Scarborough (5-10, 170). Top juniors: WR Rashon Walker (5-8, 165), QB Joseph Hairston (6-4, 205). Top sophomore: LB Amir Adkinson (6-2, 190).

Other prospects: WR Nicholas Buchanan, LB Tyreon Burns, LB Nathan Keeton, TE Sir Christian Kirkwood, DB Kani Hicks, OL Swansea Stratford.

2025 notes: The Tigers had one of the state's toughest schedules and were able to get into the area round of the playoffs in their first season as a 6A program. RB Lee (1,423 yards, 23 TDs rushing) will lead the offense while a new QB and several new WRs gain experience. Lancaster's defense features an outstanding secondary. CB Lincoln (22 tackles) is the senior leader of that group, while ATH Foster (105 tackles, 2 INTs) is back after a stellar freshman season where he turned heads. DL Fisher (68 tackles, 14 TFL, 8 sacks) is an athletic defensive lineman who is a menace rushing the passer off the edge. Keep an eye on sophomore LB Adkinson, who could emerge as an impact player for the defense.

MESQUITE SKEETERS

Coach: Rafael Thomas. Lettermen R/L: 34/31. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Trysten Shaw (5-9, 160, 4.5), LB Dakari Spencer (6-2, 190, 4.7), DE Haven Garrett (6-2, 205, 4.6), LB Giancarlo Needum (5-11, 220, 4.8), RB Antoine Smith (5-11, 195, 4.6), TE Jerome Broadus (6-2, 195, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Krisshaun Waters (5-9, 160, 4.5), OL Adrien Manhard (5-11, 275). Top sophomore: WR Tierney Shaw (5-8, 150, 4.5).

Other prospects: DE Kendall Perkins, DL Samuel Lawrence, S Jakolby Johnson, LB Keilen Mayberry, CB Christian Foy.

2025 notes: New head coach Rafael Thomas is in from Houston Yates, and there's some buzz around the Skeeters for 2025. Mesquite will have no shortage of skill talent returning with WR Shaw (21-430, 6 TDs receiving) leading the way. He played in just four games in 2024 but showed how dynamic he can be. RB Smith (385 yards, 7 TDs rushing), WR Waters (16-324, 3 TDs receiving) and TE Broadus (22-289 receiving) return but MHS has to find and develop a signal-caller to take the keys to the offensive factory. The defense will be led by LBs

District 11-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Ethan Feaster, DeSoto

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE KJ Ford, Duncanville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Duncanville (4,710.5)
2. DeSoto (2,127)
3. Waxahachie (3,151.5)
4. Lancaster (2,322)

5. Cedar Hill (2,388)
6. Mesquite (2,406)
7. Dallas Skyline (3,775)
8. Mesquite Horn (2,871)

Spencer (106 tackles) and Needum (121 tackles) along with DE Garrett (46 tackles, 4 sacks); big questions for that group are depth up front and youth in the secondary.

SKYLINE RAIDERS

Coach: Jason Garrett. Lettermen R/L: 18/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Tramell Minter (5-10, 210, 4.6), QB Deonte Ware (5-8, 185, 4.7), K/P Kevin Fuentes (5-6, 165, 4.9), OL Austin Davis (6-1, 260), DB A'Niaus Anderson (5-7, 160, 4.6), DL Dominique Gamble (6-2, 240, 4.7). Top juniors: DE James Lemon (6-2, 250, 4.9), WR Trinity Scott (5-6, 140, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Jaxson Fort (6-4, 240, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB Lemond Smith, DL Nickey Lewis, DB Will Davis, DL Kevin Handy, DB Zamarion Cook, QB Temilotuwa Akinola, WR Quawnterist Harris, LB Mark Wren.

2025 notes: The Raiders have made significant strides the past two seasons, but it'll be interesting to see if the positive momentum continues after the departure of Jacody Coleman, who left to take over at Mansfield Timbervue. In steps new coach Garrett, in from Dallas Roosevelt. The offense returns some firepower in QB Ware (912 yards, 7 TDs passing, 467 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and tough-running RB Minter (445 yards, 4 TDs rushing). OL Davis is back and will be the anchor for the Raiders on the defensive line. Sophomore WR Fort (15-307, 1 TD receiving) is back and will be a real matchup problem with his size. DL Gamble (61 tackles) will lead a rebuilt defense along with DB Anderson (55 tackles) and talented junior DE Lemon.

WAXAHACHIE INDIANS

Coach: Shane Tolleson. Lettermen R/L: 25/40. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 9-4 DI region semifinalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Kohen Brown (6-0, 185, 4.4), QB Jerry Meyer III (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Da'Marion Cooper (6-0, 190, 4.6), S JayQuan Snell (6-3, 195, 4.5), LB Kade Tolleson (5-10, 195, 4.6), DE Carmelo Clawson (6-0, 220, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/CB Braylon Davis (5-9, 165, 4.4), OL Malik Dismuke (6-3, 265). Top sophomore: RB/LB Anthony Newton (5-9, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: DE Sedrick Marsh Jr., WR Zaeden Smith, DT Talyn Pierce, DB Hector Calderon, OL Grant Gonzales, OL Elijah Mendoza, TE Lane Fincher, DT Matthew Grant.

2025 notes: After a run to the third round of the playoffs a year ago, Tolleson's talented squad is hopeful to take the next step and emerge as a true contender in Region II alongside district rivals Duncanville and DeSoto. Junior QB Meyer III (3,326 yards, 29 TDs passing) was incredible after transferring in from Nevada. He's only going to get better considering he has WR Brown (53-1,068, 11 TDs receiving) on the outside. The defense is loaded with talented playmakers led by LB Cooper (143 tackles), S Snell (90 tackles, 1 INT) and LB Tolleson (131 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks). The big questions for Waxahachie will be finding depth on the defensive line and developing consistency in the running game.

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 12-6A Preview

BRYAN VIKINGS

Coach: Ricky Tullios. Lettermen R/L: 27/28. Starters returning O/D: 2/5. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Jevalen Wade (5-9, 165, 4.5), DL Chester Gooden (6-2, 250, 4.8), DB Troy Odle (5-10, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: WR Za'Caidyn Weathersby (6-0, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Carson Dodd, LB Wyatt Bryan, DB William Hilburn.

2025 notes: Bryan is looking to break through in District 12-6A after narrowly missing the playoffs last season. While depth remains a concern, the Vikings believe their returning experience and leadership will keep them competitive. Offensively, they'll lean on explosive RB Wade (1,490 yards, 14 TDs rushing) to spark the ground game, while DL Gooden anchors the front seven. If the district's talent level doesn't change much, Bryan could be in the mix for a playoff spot. With teams such as Shoemaker and Midway also battling for another postseason berth, every game will matter. If the Vikings can develop depth and find consistency on both sides of the ball, they could take a step forward and return to the playoffs for the first time since 2022.

COPPERAS COVE BULLDAWGS

Coach: Rodney Southern. Lettermen R/L: 30/35. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: OL Marques Uini (6-5, 300, 5.0), RB KJ Zeigler (6-0, 220, 4.7), DL Gilbyrt Davis (6-1, 215, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Ashton Adams (6-1, 155, 4.5), DL Hector Rangel (6-2, 300, 5.3). Top sophomore: WR Treyton Callum (6-0, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: Copperas Cove enters a new era under first-year head coach Rodney Southern, and improvement is expected after a 4-6 campaign. The Bulldogs return seven defensive starters and have experience in the trenches, particularly on the offensive line. RB Zeigler (1,323 yards, 18 TDs rushing) will be the focal point of the offense, running behind a physical front. DL Davis (57 tackles) anchors a defense that will need other playmakers to emerge. While the line play is a strength, Cove must overcome inexperience at the skill positions to compete in a tough District 12-6A. WR Adams and WR Callum are promising targets, and continued development from younger players could determine whether Cove makes a serious push for a playoff berth in 2025.

HARKER HEIGHTS KNIGHTS

Coach: Mark Humble. Lettermen R/L: 48/30. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 8-3 6A DII bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Hudson Humble (6-0, 178, 4.8), LB Cooper Howard (6-1, 210, 4.6), WR Ryan Taylor (5-10, 170, 4.5), DB Corey McMillan (6-0, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: K/P/ATH Oakley Goins (6-2, 190, 4.9), OL Marvin Hatcher (6-1, 320, 5.4).

Other prospects: DB Jordan Loney, OL James Kerney, WR Kristian Nobles, DL Roydel Kennedy, TE Geoffrey Anderson.

2025 notes: Harker Heights hopes to build on its strong 2024 season with a solid returning core of experienced upperclassmen. QB Humble (2,986 yards, 38 TDs passing) will lead an offense that will feature lots of connections with WR Taylor (46-572 yards, 8 TDs receiving). The O-line is a key strength, providing solid protection and paving the way for a lethal attack. On the other side, LB Cooper Howard (112 tackles, 5 sacks, 4 TFL) will anchor the defense, though a lack of experience on that side of the ball could be a challenge. Despite this, the Knights are confident in their ability to defend their district title. Success will depend on defensive development while continuing to execute their high-powered offense. Harker Heights is ready for another competitive season.

KILLEEN KANGAROOS

Coach: Josh Sadler. Lettermen R/L: 26/23. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Deangelo Ingram (6-0, 175, 4.8), OL Avery Timms (6-4, 285, 5.1), LB Anthony Beverly (5-8, 190, 4.6), LB Vincent Moody (6-2, 230, 4.7). Top juniors: DL Aaron Arias-Eraza (6-2, 245, 4.9), DB John Wyatt (5-10, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: DB Tyson Caldwell (5-10, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Daysahwn McHenry, RB Sha'Drach Gordon, DB Deshaun Reid, LB Demetrius Easterling.

2025 notes: Killeen expects improvement after a winless 2024 season, especially with four losses coming by 10 points or fewer. The Kangaroos return eight defensive starters, including leading tackler LB Beverly (79 tackles, 9 TFL), and believe that side of the ball will keep them competitive. Offensively, QB Ingram (2,430 yards, 24 TDs passing) returns to lead the charge, but the team must replace four graduated wide receivers. One of the younger targets will need to emerge quickly. DL Arias-Eraza (33 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 sack) and DB Caldwell add upside to a hungry roster. Killeen hasn't reached the playoffs since 2016, but in a rugged District 12-6A, the Kangaroos are eager to go from league cellar-dweller to a team that disrupts the pecking order.

District 12-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Hudson Humble, Killeen Harker Heights

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Jamarion Carlton, Temple

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Killeen Harker Heights (2,351)
2. Temple (2,470)
3. Hewitt Midway (2,729.5)
4. Killeen Shoemaker (2,362)
5. Bryan (2,499)
6. Copperas Cove (2,411.5)
7. Killeen (2,286)

MIDWAY PANTHERS

Coach: Joe Gillespie. Lettermen R/L: 30/44. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 7-4 6A DI bi-district finalists/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Lathan Whisenton (6-0, 190, 4.6), OL Landen Pope (6-3, 270, 5.0), LB Chauncey King (5-10, 210, 4.6), LB Hudson King (6-4, 210, 4.7), WR Jacoby Hamilton (6-0, 170, 4.5), RB Eduardo Longoria, QB Andrew McNair, DL Caden Byrd, WR Deondre Thomas.

2025 notes: Hewitt Midway enters Year 2 under former TCU defensive coordinator Joe Gillespie, aiming for a third straight playoff berth. The Panthers lost key contributors but return several impact players, led by RB Whisenton (1,225 yards, 18 TDs rushing), who is primed for a breakout junior season. With Gillespie's first full offseason, the team should have a stronger grasp of his system on both sides of the ball. The defense will rely on LB Chauncey King and LB Hudson King to anchor the front seven, while WR Hamilton adds speed to the offense. The Panthers are talented but face a tough 12-6A district. Can they secure another playoff spot and earn their first postseason win since 2019?

SHOEMAKER GREY WOLVES

Coach: Toby Foreman. Lettermen R/L: 26/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-5 6A DII bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Brandon Brown Jr. (5-8, 160, 4.4), RB Willie Thomas (6-0, 215, 4.5), OL Troy Pless (6-5, 305), DB Brendan Logan (6-1, 190, 4.5), DL Jamon Sanders (6-0, 315), DB William Thomas (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Adrain Hudson (6-3, 325), DL Cayden Logan (6-2, 210, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Tano Wooten (6-0, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB James Evans, DB Da'Mariyon Dye-Allen, WR Jamal Polite.

2025 notes: Shoemaker got a taste of 6A playoff football last year and is hungry for another shot in 2025. The Wolves return an experienced defense led by DB Logan (57 tackles, 2 INTs) and DL Sanders (53 tackles, 4 sacks), a unit that should keep them competitive in a tight District 12-6A race. Offensively, RB Brown (559 yards, 14 TDs rushing; 42-746, 7 TDs receiving) is the clear focal point of the offense. He'll run behind a solid offensive line but needs help from fellow RB Thomas (204 yards, 3 TDs) to take pressure off. The biggest concern is overall team speed, which could be an issue against district foes with explosive playmakers. Shoemaker has talent, but can it keep up?

TEMPLE WILDCATS

Coach: Chad President. Lettermen R/L: 26/28. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 7-4 6A DI bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Champ Mayo (6-2, 180, 4.8), DL Jamarion Carlton (6-4, 240, 4.8), DB Jason Bradford (6-3, 185, 4.6), WR Ramahn Brown (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Bradley Filmore (6-2, 280, 5.3), DB Isaiah Ellis (6-1, 180, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Corrian Nealy (6-1, 180, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR Preston Thomas, OL Isaiah Guerra, RB Eric Shelly, WR Brady Williams, RB Cavali Nealy, DB Houston Martin.

2025 notes: Under first-year head coach Chad President, Temple is eager to take the next step after a solid 2024 season that ended in the bi-district round. President, a former Wildcat star, brings a renewed energy to the program, and players are fully invested in building on last year's success. With an explosive offense led by QB Mayo (2,724 yards, 24 TDs passing) and a fast, physical defense anchored by DL Carlton (57 tackles, 11 TFL, 5 sacks), Temple believes it can compete for the district title and make a deeper playoff run. The team's strength lies in their athleticism, and they feel confident in their ability to perform in a similar district. Will President's presence move the needle for Temple in 2025?



Hudson
HUMBLE
QB
Killeen
Harker Heights



Champ
MAYO
QB
Temple



Grant
SMITH
QB
Conroe Grand
Oaks



Zach
JOHNSON
QB
Klein Cain

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 13-6A Preview

CANEY CREEK PANTHERS

Coach: Kendall Hineman. Lettermen R/L: 28/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Jahamante Kuhn (5-9, 165, 4.5), DE Xavier Martinez (6-1, 185, 4.8), TE Dorian Bennett (6-3, 200, 4.9), OL Isaiah Rivera (6-0, 260), CB Ellis Davis (5-10, 160, 4.8), WR Carson Gauvreau (5-8, 165, 4.8), Top juniors: QB Kaleb Marshall (6-2, 175, 4.8), RB Payton Pollard (5-10, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Amarien Hughes (6-2, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Dane Cook, RB Kaemon Graves, DT Owen Marshack.

2025 notes: The Panthers return a solid core as they look to climb into potential playoff contention in a deep 13-6A. WR Kuhn (41-368, 4 TDs receiving) is also a dynamic threat in the return game, and he headlines the offense along with TE Bennett, a four-year starter. Versatile OL Rivera can play any position up front. He was an all-district selection in 2024. DE Martinez (6 sacks) is an athletic edge rusher, while CB Davis picked off three passes last year as he leads the secondary. "We were junior heavy last year, so that experience will help us. We will still have a heavy emphasis on the run game, but I think our passing game will progress," said Hineman.

CLEVELAND INDIANS

Coach: Ajani Sanders. Lettermen R/L: 31/13. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: LB Jayden Gibson (5-8, 170), DE Julian Barceñas (6-0, 200), OL/DL Eli Canenguez (6-2, 275), DB Christian Harrison (5-10, 160), RB James Cook (5-8, 160), Top juniors: DB Dontrell Punch (6-2, 200), DB Jar'vion Payne (5-7, 150). Top sophomore: WR/DB Aspen Williams (6-3, 160).

2025 notes: New head coach Ajani Sanders comes to long-struggling Cleveland with plenty of experience with head coaching stops at three different schools and playing experience at Notre Dame and the NFL. He'll lean on all that to try and get the Indians turned around, as they've lost 29 of their last 30 games and are mired in a 26-game losing streak. The defense could be the bright spot early with the return of LB Gibson, an undersized but speedy LB, and DE Barceñas. The staff is excited about the potential of a pair of juniors in the secondary in Punch and Payne. "We have a great group of kids excited about change and are giving everything," said Sanders, who believes his team will be a more competitive team in 2025.

COLLEGE PARK CAVALIERS

Coach: Kyle Coats. Lettermen R/L: 24/42. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-5 DII area finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: DB Marco Beltran (5-11, 185, 4.5), WR Jordan Styles (6-0, 190, 4.6), DT Jordyn Grant (6-1, 300), QB Camden Hughes (6-1, 190, 4.7), LB Lane Leger (6-0, 185, 4.7). Top juniors: CB Jordan White (5-11, 175, 4.7), DE Lucas Richard (6-2, 225). Top sophomore: RB Antonio Booker (5-10, 190, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Cole Cook, OL Brock Menzie, DB David Sands, DE Esteban Asong, WR Brian Snodgrass, DT RJ Wymys, OL Ty Darrian Rogers, RB AJ Espinal.

2025 notes: Fresh off an area round playoff appearance in 2024, College Park is looking to make a push to the top of a deep 13-6A race. QB Hughes (2,555 yards, 27 TDs passing; 309 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back after a sensational sophomore season and will lead the offense. WR Styles (57-817 yards, 11 TDs receiving) is a dynamic big-play threat on the outside. The defense is headlined by DB Beltran (76 tackles, 6 INTs); he scored three defensive touchdowns a year ago and returned two punts for scores. DT Grant (16 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks) was a breakout player as a freshman and is already picking up FBS interest. Coats says youth on the offensive line will be a concern going into 2025.

CONROE TIGERS

Coach: Cedric Hardeman. Lettermen R/L: 20/48. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 9-3 DI area finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Xavier Harmon (6-2, 185, 4.5), DB Damien Horace (6-0, 180, 4.5), WR Braylen Mills (5-11, 175, 4.4), DL Jamrion Haynes (6-0, 255, 4.7), OL

Kingston Tupuola (6-5, 320). Top juniors: QB Cameron Nunley (6-1, 180, 4.6), OL Jalen Nevins (6-1, 310). Top sophomore: RB Tab Coleman (6-0, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: QB Jackson Reagan, OL Dejon McCullough, K Zachary Morgan, DB Kaden Williams, DL Duntavian Duckett, WR Ka'den Barnaby.

2025 notes: After picking up their first playoff win since 1999, the Tigers will look to continue their momentum with a lot of new faces after graduating 48 seniors, including three players who signed with Power 4 programs. Expect the defense to be slightly ahead of the offense early on as DBs Harmon and Horace both have great size, speed and the ability to play in space. DL Haynes is a strong and athletic defender who anchors the defensive line. Conroe's offensive line will be big and physical with Tupuola and Nevins leading the way. Junior QB Nunley returns to lead the offense, and his top target will be WR Mills, who is beginning to generate FBS interest on the recruiting front.

GRAND OAKS GRIZZLIES

Coach: Shaun McDowell. Lettermen R/L: 30/40. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Grant Smith (6-4, 215, 4.7), DB Griffin Tillis (5-10, 180, 4.5), WR Preston Cloud (6-2, 180, 4.6), TE Paxton McCutchen (5-10, 205, 4.8), DE Cullen Thompson (6-4, 225, 4.5), RB Keilan Gause (5-8, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Darnell Jackson (5-10, 160, 4.5), DL Trey Lott (6-4, 240, 4.7). Top sophomore: DT Bruce Warren (6-1, 270).

Other prospects: OL Garrett Oeswein, DB Isaac Smith, OL Gabriel Saliba, LB Kevin Ross, RB Bryan Victorian, DB Kyson Morgan, DL Aaron Times, K/P Kaden Rosado.

2025 notes: The Grizzlies are seeking their first playoff appearance in school history and McDowell believes this team has the personnel to get it done with seven back on both sides. QB Smith (2,167 yards, 24 TDs passing) is back for a fourth year leading the offense and is the unquestioned leader. WR Cloud (41-606, 9 TDs receiving) is back, but watch out for junior WR Jackson (12-277, 3 TDs receiving), who made a big impression as a sophomore. DE Thompson (23 tackles, 2 sacks) "runs like a DB," according to McDowell, while DB Tillis (56 tackles, 4 INTs) is a playmaker and a team captain. McDowell says his team has the personnel to get it done, but they need to get over the mental hump, especially against fellow Conroe ISD opponents.

NEW CANEY EAGLES

Coach: Sheldon Bennight. Lettermen R/L: 27/18. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: RB Rae'Corion Johnson (5-8, 170, 4.6), WR Brayden Logan (6-1, 180, 4.5), ATH Ken Mitchell (5-9, 175, 4.5), DL Christian Magana (6-3, 245), LB Kai Zavala (6-0, 220, 4.7), DB Sam Harris (6-1, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: DB DJ Banks (6-1, 180, 4.6), LB Ousmane Faye (5-9, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: After bottoming out with just a single win a year ago, New Caney has a new head coach as Bennight comes to town after a successful stint on the island at Galveston Ball. RB Johnson (638 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is a shifty and versatile back who will lead the offense, while junior WR Logan and senior ATH Mitchell (325 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 27-230, 2 TDs receiving) are back. The Eagles defense, which brings back seven starters, has playmakers at all three levels with the return of DL Magana (34 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks), LB Zavala and DB Harris. While adapting to new schemes will be a challenge, Bennight says the team is more experienced across the board.

OAK RIDGE WAR EAGLES

Coach: Tyler Blackshire. Lettermen R/L: 24/28. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR James Scott (6-5, 200, 4.6), TE Titus Brayboy (6-1, 210), QB Drayton Urbay (6-1, 165), OL/DL Colton Francis (6-1, 240), TE/DE James Skaer (6-6, 220). Top juniors: DE Finn Walker (6-6, 235), DB Chris Salem (5-10, 160).

2025 notes: Oak Ridge enters 2025 with a new head coach as former Magnolia defensive coordinator Tyler Blackshire gets his chance to be a head coach for the first time. Offensively, expect the War Eagles to be

District 13-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jack Daulton, The Woodlands

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Jermaine Bishop, Willis

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. The Woodlands (4,523)
2. Willis (2,645)
3. The Woodlands College Park (3,349.5)
4. Conroe (5,282)
5. Conroe Grand Oaks (3,766)
6. Conroe Oak Ridge (2,730.5)
7. Conroe Caney Creek (2,668.5)
8. New Caney (2,401)
9. Cleveland (3,736)

dynamic with the return of QB Urbay (1,777 yards, 13 TDs passing). He has one of the Houston area's most productive WRs on the outside in Scott (59-956, 10 TDs receiving), whose combination of size and speed makes him a real problem for opposing defenses. The defense has a pair of rangy bookends along the line in junior DE Walker and sophomore TE/DE Skaer; both stand at 6-6 and have the ability to be very disruptive. Although Blackshire likes his offensive skill returning, he says a lack of depth is a concern.

THE WOODLANDS HIGHLANDERS

Coach: Jim Rapp. Lettermen R/L: 31/51. Starters returning O/D: 4/8. 2024: 11-2 DI region semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jack Daulton (6-2, 180, 4.5), DB Parker Stewart (5-10, 170, 4.5), DB Caycen Bartolazzi (6-0, 175, 4.6), DL Jy'Ree Jefferson (6-2, 260), LB Cole Carlin (6-1, 215, 4.8), RB Cody Jordan (5-9, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Magnus Herndon (6-3, 200, 4.7), WR Colton Weddel (6-5, 220, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR Carter Cass (5-9, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Tim Parke, DL Derrick Williams, LB Dylan Carpenter, WR Eli Lancaster, DB Jabari Sullivan, LB Deng Wei, K/P Luke Crudginton (6-1, 175, 4.8), OL Tyson Clinton (6-1, 240).

2025 notes: The Woodlands pushed into the regional semifinals for the third straight season where it fell to powerful Duncanville. A repeat isn't out of the question as the Highlanders, especially on defense, bring back a wealth of experience. The secondary has a chance to be one of the best in the Houston area with the return of DBs Stewart (25 tackles, 3 INTs, 1 kick return TD) and Bartolazzi (102 tackles, 6 INTs). DL Jefferson (72 tackles, 10 sacks) is a dominant force up front, while LB Carlin (87 tackles, 6 sacks, 1 INT) has a nose for the football. QB Daulton (1,776 yards, 26 TDs passing; 1,261 yards, 18 TDs rushing) is back and will lead the offense, but the big question, according to Rapp, will be youth on the offensive line.

WILLIS WILDKATS

Coach: Trent Miller. Lettermen R/L: 15/31. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 12-1 DII region semifinalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jermaine Bishop (6-0, 165, 4.4), OL Day'Jon More (6-3, 295), DB Cayden Williams (6-0, 200, 4.6), RB Trenton Frankum (5-10, 180, 4.7), DL AJ Edwards (6-2, 275), LB Brock Reynolds, DL Jakayden Thompson.

2025 notes: Fresh off back-to-back 12-1 seasons, the Wildkats will field a much younger team after the loss of 31 seniors. One player who brings plenty of experience to the table is ATH Bishop (83-1,565, 18 TDs receiving; 3 INTs), a four-year starter and Texas commit who may be among the most explosive players in the country. OL Moore is another double-digit FBS offer guy and the leader of an offensive line that Miller says will be a strength. The defense was much improved a year ago and should again be solid with talented junior DB Williams leading the way along with junior DL Edwards (5 sacks) and LB Reynolds (50 tackles). Miller thinks his team can still challenge for a district title but lack of depth and experience will be question marks.

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 14-6A Preview

ALDINE MUSTANGS

Coach: Cirilo Ojeda. Lettermen R/L: 19/27. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 2-8/0-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Damarion Parrish (6-3, 180), RB Tariq Gary (5-8, 165, 4.7), RB Jayden Williams (5-7, 155, 4.7), LB Matthew Salazar (5-6, 165, 4.8), OL Francisco Calidonio (6-1, 225), DL Esteban Jaramillo (6-0, 185). Top juniors: OL Christian Medina (6-2, 240), WR/DB Rigoberto Moya (5-9, 175). Top sophomore: ATH Busby Dieszyt (5-10, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: ATH Lowgen Price, RB/DB Ja'Rell Howard, OL Christian Howard, ATH Joeangel Mendoza.

2025 notes: After going winless for three seasons between 2020-2022, the Mustangs have taken steps in the right direction, but 2025 could be tough as just seven starters return for Ojeda's squad. Junior ATH Parrish will be a key weapon in all three phases, while a pair of sophomores will pace the ground game in Gary and Williams. They'll operate behind a veteran offensive line led by Calidonio. LB Salazar is the heart and soul of the defense. He's undersized but has good speed and instincts according to the coaches. "We lost a big senior class, so we'll be younger, but more talented top to bottom," said Ojeda.

DAVIS FALCONS

Coach: Kelvin Chatham. Lettermen R/L: 25/17. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Nicholas Tramble (5-9, 175), DL Caedyn Daughtry (6-1, 275), DB Kayden Gilbert (6-0, 185), WR Tylek Lewis (6-2, 225), OL Jonathan Giles (6-0, 270), CB Keith Lundy (5-11, 160). Top juniors: RB Bryderick Robins (5-8, 160), WR David Richardson (5-11, 165). Top sophomore: DL Uriah Jackson (6-1, 210).

Other prospects: WR J'Marcus Butler, OL Maximus Jackson, DB Keithas Johnson, WR Jeremiah Jackson, DL McKinley Blackshire, DB Christian Hutchins.

2025 notes: The Falcons broke through and earned a playoff spot in Chatham's second season at the helm and could be even more dangerous in 2025. Davis welcomes back seven starters on both sides of the ball and has additional help coming from a 7-3 JV squad. RB Tramble (1,144 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is an explosive playmaker in the backfield, while WR Lewis (17-217, 2 TDs receiving) is a physical mismatch on the outside. The Davis defense is led by DL Daughtry, who is one of the more disruptive interior defensive line players in Greater Houston after tallying eight sacks a year ago. DB Gilbert (64 tackles, 3 INTs) leads the secondary and is also the team's top returning tackler.

DEKANEY WILDCATS

Coach: Anthony Williams. Lettermen R/L: 19/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 4-6/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Cordey Sherman (6-0, 170, 4.5), RB Christopher Chizer, Jr. (5-9, 160, 4.4), DT Javien Bradford (6-0, 280, 4.9), RB Samaritan Cunningham (5-9, 190, 4.5), ATH David Edmerson (6-0, 170, 4.5), ATH Var'Quan Green (5-10, 160, 4.4). Top juniors: TE Jakhhan Muhammad (6-4, 210, 4.7), LB Elijah LeBlanc (6-1, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Eddie Idemudia (5-10, 190, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Chase Watson, OL Axel Flores, OL Edwin Vasquez, TE/LB Tylen Chevrier, ATH Kenyon Shelby, WR/DB Riqui Butler, TE/LB Jamir Newman, WR Jaden Gibson.

2025 notes: The Wildcats missed the playoffs for the first time since 2018 last year, and Coach Williams is hoping that a wave of exciting young talent from a 7-3 JV squad is ready to make an impact at the varsity level. Dekaney features not one, but two FBS-caliber running backs in sophomore Chizer Jr. (325 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and senior Cunningham, who returns from an injury suffered in the season opener. Edmerson (2,014 yards, 10 TDs passing) will likely lead the offense but is versatile enough to play wide receiver or

defensive back as well. Sophomore WR/DB Sherman is another sensational young talent—he returned three interceptions for touchdowns a year ago. DT Bradford (21 tackles, 5 sacks) also made an impact as a freshman last season.

EISENHOWER EAGLES

Coach: Padriac McGinnis. Lettermen R/L: 19/25. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 5-5/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Jason Washington, DB Braylen South, LB Braylon Alvis, WR Malachi Gatson, LB Marcus Potts, DT Isaiah Jackson. Top juniors: OL Lamarion Harris, RB Elijah Dixon. Top sophomore: WR Rashad Hawkins.

Other prospects: OL Sedrick Steptoe, DB Davion Garrett, LB Isaiah Curry, TE Elijah Smith, TE Dezmound Randle, DB Dante Richard, LB Carl Smith, WR Drew Young.

2025 notes: Coach McGinnis arrives on the scene at Ike after a stint on staff at Houston Heights and head coaching experience from his time at Hightower. The cupboard isn't bare for Eisenhower, as junior RB Dixon returns as the featured back. OL Steptoe will lead a group of young linemen, while the defense will be anchored by DT Jackson (30 tackles, 8 TFL, 3 sacks). Ike has a pair of strong LBs in Alvis (86 tackles, 10 TFL, 8 sacks) and Curry (30 tackles, 6 TFL), who will fly to the ball. The secondary will be piloted by DB South (20 tackles, 3 INTs). The big keys for the Eagles will be adapting to the new schemes after a late hire and settling on a signal-caller.

MACARTHUR GENERALS

Coach: Blake Ware. Lettermen R/L: 32/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: LB Xavier Raygoza (5-11, 185, 4.9), TE/DE Elijah McDonald (6-0, 195, 4.6), WR/DB Julian Ponce (6-0, 160, 4.7), TE/DL Jason Mohammed (6-0, 205, 4.8), WR Kaedyn Macicek (6-1, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Tre Allen (5-11, 170, 4.8). Top juniors: QB Lance Nero (5-11, 175, 4.5), DL Kellyn Husband (6-0, 225, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB Korey Fisher (5-8, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/LB Amari Cano, OL Courtland Martin, RB Trinidad Espinoza, OL Jayden Lopez, TE/DE Jaylen McFarland, OL Kanon Lewis, S Josh Morales, DL Brandon Calagao.

2025 notes: MacArthur took some lumps in Ware's first season, but the Generals could be ready to make a push to playoff contention with a wealth of experience returning. Junior QB Nero (1,049 yards, 9 TDs passing; 539 yards, 6 TDs rushing) returns to lead the offense and the staff expects a big leap in Year 2. WR/DB Ponce (406 yards, 4 TDs receiving) may end up spending time on defense, but is still a weapon for the offense. Ware calls LB Raygoza (63 tackles, 11 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT) the "voice of the defense." Speedy TE/DL McDonald (55 tackles, 11 TFL) runs on the MacArthur relay teams. Ware says the Generals have a strong senior class and have gotten some kids out who were only playing basketball and could be impact players.

NIMITZ COUGARS

Coach: Cornelius Harmon. Lettermen R/L: 33/16. Starters returning O/D: 9/6. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Malachi Augustus (6-1, 175, 4.5), QB Albert Brown (5-11, 215, 4.7), DB Jevohn Hicks (5-9, 165, 4.5), DB Jaylen Jackson (5-10, 170, 4.5), RB Brashard Miles (5-7, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Darien Callier (6-0, 265), OL Ezequiel Gonzalez (6-2, 305). Top sophomore: ATH Devin Alford (5-8, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Lathan Causey, ATH Jayvyn Wright, DB Anthony Jordan, WR Kaden Phillips, WR Deiondre Williams.

2025 notes: Coach Harmon has built Nimitz into the top team in Aldine ISD, and now he's hoping the Cougars are ready to take the next step and make noise in the playoffs. There's plenty of experience back with 15 returning starters plus depth being added from a JV team that was 6-4 a year ago. WR Augustus (918 yards, 14 TDs receiving) is back and

District 14-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Malachi Augustus, Aldine Nimitz

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE DeMarcus Marks, Spring Westfield

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Spring Westfield (2,303.5)
2. Aldine Nimitz (3,356.5)
3. Spring Dekaney (2,485)
4. Aldine Davis (3,806.5)

5. Spring (2,765)
6. Aldine MacArthur (4,073.5)
7. Aldine Eisenhower (2,996)
8. Aldine (3,266)

will be the top target for 14-6A offensive MVP QB Brown (2,203 yards, 26 TDs passing; 154 yards, 6 TDs rushing). The secondary will be the strength for Nimitz in its 4-2-5 defensive scheme as DBs Hicks and Jackson are back, the concern for Harmon is a lack of experience on the defensive line and at linebacker.

SPRING LIONS

Coach: Freddie Strange Jr. Lettermen R/L: 7/30. Starters returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Jonah Espinosa (6-0, 295), WR Kevin Davis (6-1, 170, 4.5), RB Emmanuel Bowen (5-8, 160, 4.5), OL Jacob Davis (6-1, 295). Top juniors: OL Elijah Guidry (6-4, 325), S Jante Daniel (5-10, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Aaden Wade, DB Jaylen Pradia, ATH Keeyun Lauderdale, WR Landon McClennon, DL Kelvin Sumo, DB Damario Gilmore.

2025 notes: Strange will serve as head coach on an interim basis for the 2025 season; he was previously the Lions' defensive coordinator. Spring does have pieces on the offensive side of the ball with WR Davis (415 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and RB Brown (550 yards, 7 TDs rushing) both returning. Only two starters are back on defense, but both earned all-district honors as DL Espinosa (35 tackles, 11 TFL, 2 sacks) is the anchor in the middle of the Lions defensive front, while junior S Daniel (31 tackles, 2 INTs) is back patrolling the SHS secondary. There's talent here, but it's mostly unproven; can the youngsters step up in a hurry?

WESTFIELD MUSTANGS

Coach: Desmar Black. Lettermen R/L: 21/24. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-3 DII bi-district finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Emmanuel Yancy (5-9, 170, 4.4), DE DeMarcus Marks (6-4, 215, 4.8), DL Colby Foster (6-2, 255), LB Davon Smith (6-0, 215, 4.5), DL Antonio Underwood (6-3, 265, 4.8), OL Sebastian Hawkins (6-2, 280). Top juniors: DE Jordin Jones (6-2, 215, 4.8), RB Demonte Ford (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: ATH Drake Ruby (6-1, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Ashton Vasser, QB Kameron Hubbard, LB Jaylin Jones, DB Kayden Jacob, RB Challis Sims, ATH Wayne Busby, ATH Raejohn Thompson, DB Kaleb Bailey.

2025 notes: After taking over in late July, Black led the Mustangs to a district title before being eliminated in the bi-district round. Seven starters are back and Black believes his squad is poised for contention once again in Region II. WR Yancy (24-574, 5 TDs receiving) is an explosive deep threat for the offense, while junior RB Ford (963 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is back after a strong sophomore debut. The Mustangs will be fast and physical on defense with the return of DE Marks, who is an electric edge rusher and junior LB Smith (70 tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks, 1 INT), who was fourth in 14-6A in tackles as a sophomore. Black says junior DL Underwood is the next in the long line of great Westfield defensive linemen.

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HIGH SCHOOL
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DISTRICT 15-6A Preview

CAIN HURRICANES

Coach: James Clancy. Lettermen R/L: 40/42. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 9-2 DI bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Zach Johnson (6-4, 205, 4.8), OL Nash Leingang (6-3, 290), DL Braden Nwoko (6-0, 265), RB Jah'Rin Louis (5-8, 155, 4.4), DB AJ Craft (6-0, 185, 4.5), DL Kenyon White (6-1, 235, 4.7), DB Christian Redeo (6-1, 170, 4.5), RB Rico O'Guinn (5-10, 155, 4.5), K Noah Ballard, DB Kingston Yelder.

2025 notes: The Hurricanes rolled to another strong season with nine regular season wins, but only seven starters return. QB Johnson (2,520 yards 24 TDs passing; 259 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense after setting several school records a year ago. RB Louis and sophomore RB O'Guinn will feature in the ground game, operating behind an offensive line anchored by OL Leingang. Only two starters are back on the defensive side of the ball. DL Nwoko is a disruptive force up front and will anchor the defensive line along with talented junior DL White. The secondary has talent with DB Craft and junior DB Redeo leading the way.

COLLINS TIGERS

Coach: Adrian Mitchell. Lettermen R/L: 21/32. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-6 DII region semifinalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Braydon Schoggin (6-0, 170, 4.7), ATH Ty'Drick Finley (5-7, 155, 4.5), LB James Brady (6-1, 225, 4.7), DB Christian Wilkerson (5-10, 165, 4.5), DE Ellis Rodgers (6-1, 240, 4.8), OL Eddie Lartigue (6-3, 300). Top juniors: WR/DB Quincy Armstead (6-1, 180, 4.5), DB Jonathan Colon (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: DL Cayden Cunningham (6-1, 300).

Other prospects: RB/LB Randall Jackson, WR Adrian Jenkins, DB Makell Wilson, RB Jai'Shaun Jackson, OL Josh Strambler, DB Gavin Darte, DB Kaden Lackey, WR Aiyden Benford.

2025 notes: After starting the season 0-3, Klein Collins figured things out in district play to get into the playoffs and earn two wins before falling in the regional semifinals. QB Schoggin (1,810 yards, 16 TDs passing; 1,248 yards, 21 TDs rushing) is back to lead the attack, he's a true dual-threat and an operator of the offense. ATH Finley (670 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 208 yards, 2 TDs receiving) is also a force in the return game, so expect the staff to scheme ways to get the ball into his hands. LB Brady (88 tackles) has great size but is comfortable in space, while DE Rodgers (40 tackles, 10 TFL, 2 sacks) is a dynamic edge rusher. "We are built on a blue-collar mentality," said Mitchell.

FOREST GOLDEN EAGLES

Coach: Darrick Vaughn. Lettermen R/L: 20/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/2. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Ja'Karee Jones (5-7, 150, 4.5), DB Alijah Alexis (6-2, 195, 4.5), OL Oscar Quintero (6-3, 265), QB James Robinson (6-3, 185, 4.8), RB DeJuane Etheridge (5-10, 180, 4.5). Top junior: DL John Henderson (6-4, 205, 4.5), DL Marc Bennett (6-0, 225, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Jayden Williams (5-10, 150, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Paiton Mitchell-Woods, LB Robert Johnson, DB Reon Little, DB Jadon Murphy.

2025 notes: The Eagles struggled a year ago, and with just eight starters back it could be another difficult campaign in 2025. WR Jones is an explosive threat in the passing game and will be the top target for QB Robinson. Junior RB Etheridge has plenty of potential and could emerge as the featured back for Klein Forest. OL Quintero leads what will be a young group on the offensive line. The defense is led by a pair of talented junior playmakers on the defensive line in Henderson and Bennett. DB Alexis has great range in the secondary, covers a lot of ground and is solid in run support.

KLEIN BEARKATS

Coach: Nick Codutti. Lettermen R/L: 25/35. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Edward Kelly Jr. (5-10, 185, 4.5), QB Carter Lattelle (6-1, 175, 4.9), WR Torrey Paul (5-8, 165, 4.4), ATH Chase Battles (6-2, 205, 4.8), DL Trenton Marshall (6-2, 265, 4.9), OL Nicolas Robertson (6-3, 335), DB Zaylin Siner (6-1, 180, 4.6), LB Aaron Cortez (5-10, 200, 4.8), TE Brayden McCombs (6-1, 215, 4.8), ATH Grant Stratta, RB Brandon Brigman, ATH Turbo Jordan Jr., DB Dyshon

Washington Jr., OL Chance Carter, LB Elijah Vaesa, ATH Chad Evans Jr., RB Kendrick Brown.

2025 notes: New head coach Nick Codutti looks to turn Klein around from being a competitive team, to one that's consistently playing on Thanksgiving weekend, which is what he did in his last stop at Fulshear. RB Kelly Jr. (1,732 yards, 21 TDs rushing) is expected to be the featured back, while WR Paul (30-602, 6 TDs receiving) is back on the outside and is a force with his blazing speed. QB Lattelle (1,820 yards, 16 TDs passing) impressed as a sophomore and will direct the Dead-T attack. Junior DL Marshall (56 tackles, 4 sacks) had a strong sophomore debut and should be the leader of the defense, along with dynamic ATH Battles (68 tackles, 12 TFL, 11 sacks). Codutti lists adapting to new schemes and overall depth as two question marks going into fall camp.

MAGNOLIA BULLDOGS

Coach: Craig Martin. Lettermen R/L: 36/31. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Tyler Covar (6-2, 220, 4.6), TE Carson Smith (6-2, 235, 4.7), DE Ayden Johnson (6-1, 215, 4.6), FS Tanner Covar (6-2, 215, 4.6), QB Chase Lowery (5-11, 195, 4.5), K/P Gavin Gonzales (6-3, 210, 4.6). Top juniors: RB Cash Ferrell (5-9, 205, 4.5), LB Ty Miller (6-1, 215, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR Nick Ensminger (5-9, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: CB Hudson Enyart, LB Max Lejsek, WR Joseph Solomon, WR Cole Sorensen, OL Hayden Zachary, DL Demond Perrino, TE Ian Slocum, DL Cristian Cleveland.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs just missed out on the playoffs in their first season in 6A, but with 15 starters returning don't be surprised if Martin's squad is in the mix in 15-6A. LB Covar (124 tackles, 7 TFL, 2 sacks) has been starting since his freshman season and will lead the defense. FS Covar (36 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 INT) is back after missing most of his junior season with an injury. Martin calls him, "the QB of our defense." QB Lowery (908 yards, 10 TDs passing) is a dual-threat who is ready for a breakout season, while TE Smith (11-149, 3 TDs receiving) is not only a great blocker but a reliable target in the passing game. Martin says K/P Gonzales is a difference-maker on special teams. The biggest concern is breaking in three new starters on the OL.

MAGNOLIA WEST MUSTANGS

Coach: Ben McGehee. Lettermen R/L: 30/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: WR Parker Robinson (6-2, 175, 4.8), DL Bennett Mills (5-10, 250), LB Luke Mattingly (5-11, 190, 4.8), LB Rylan Langley (5-10, 215, 4.8), S Dawson Campbell (6-1, 190, 4.9), OL Salvador Reyna (6-5, 275), DL James Wilson (6-2, 280), OL Aden Adams (5-10, 250), WR Zane Daniel, QB Shawn Brown, RB Anthony Meraz, LB Matthew Tollenaere.

2025 notes: The Mustangs struggled in their first year at the 6A level, but expect improvement from McGehee's squad as 30 lettermen return along with some reinforcements from a JV team that was competitive at 4-6. WR Robinson (27-303, 3 TDs receiving) will lead the way for the offense, while OL Reyna is the anchor of the offensive line. Where the Mustangs should be much improved is on the defensive side of the ball where seven starters return. S Campbell (43 tackles, 5 INTs) had a big sophomore season and will be the leader of the secondary, while LB Langley (105 tackles, 8 TFL) is a prototype LB who always finds his way to the football.

MEMORIAL WILDCATS

Coach: Joe Cary. Lettermen R/L: 25/47. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Gavin Westenberg (5-11, 180, 4.5), OL Cayden Alonzo (6-3, 315), DE Aidan Budzisz (6-1, 215, 4.8), LB Donovan Wagner (6-0, 215, 4.8), DE Preston Woods (6-3, 245), TE Stephen Tripp (6-1, 215, 4.9), DB Jacob Bedizel (5-10, 165, 4.5), WR Carter Hamilton (5-9, 160, 4.5), QB Jaxon Robertson, OL Will Faciane, LB Adrian Hattenberger, OL Daniel Gilbert, OL Josh Miller, DT Josiah Haughton, RB Johnny Ferrari, DB Jeremiah Flash.

2025 notes: The Wildcats fell to 4-6 in Cary's first season at the helm, and if the Wildcats are to get back into playoff contention a young set of skill players will need to grow up in a hurry. WR Westenberg (40-

District 15-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Braydon Schoggin, Klein Collins

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Zack Ruysenaars, Klein Oak

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Klein Cain (4,023)
2. Tomball (3,079)
3. Klein Collins (3,326)
4. Klein (3,435)
5. Klein Oak (3,688)
6. Magnolia (2,287)
7. Tomball Memorial (3,138.5)
8. Klein Forest (3,501)
9. Magnolia West (2,383)

1,151, 13 TDs receiving) is back and will be the 'Cats' big play weapon in the passing game. OL Alonzo was a second-team all-district pick and will be the anchor up front for TMHS. Cary says the defensive line will be the team's biggest strength in 2025 with the return of DEs Budzisz and Woods, along with LB Wagner (98 tackles) who Cary calls, "the heart and soul of our defense." Junior DB Bedizel had a strong sophomore season and leads the secondary.

OKA PANTHERS

Coach: Brandon Carpenter. Lettermen R/L: 28/40. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Micah Rhodes (5-10, 175, 4.5), LB Zack Ruysenaars (6-0, 185, 4.6), ATH Antonio Dural (5-10, 160, 4.5), WR Jonny Craven (6-3, 180, 4.5), QB Andre Phillip (6-2, 180, 4.5), DB Harrison Carter (6-3, 160, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Bobby Asay (6-2, 190, 4.6), S Calvin Molegraaf (5-11, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: DL Andrew O'Leary (5-10, 250, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB Quincy Carter, OL Taelon Boone, OL Ke'Lan Foster, LB Treyton Payne, WR Owen Riegler, ATH Trey Robinson.

2025 notes: Klein Oak was able to get back into the playoffs after a two-year absence and a big part of the Panthers' success was the emergence of sophomore RB Rhodes (1,048 yards, 10 TDs rushing), who had a monster freshman season. He'll be the focal point of the offense, but keep an eye on junior QB Phillip, who has elite ability and is a high-IQ player. Sophomore ATH Dural played defense and special teams as a freshman and could slide into seeing offensive time in 2025. LB Ruysenaars (117 tackles, 13 TFL) is the "unquestioned leader of our defense," according to Carpenter. Can the Panthers mature in the trenches?

TOMBALL COUGARS

Coach: Dave Handal. Lettermen R/L: 32/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 10-2 DII area finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jaxyn Faldyn (6-0, 180, 4.5), LB Braeden Schneider (6-2, 215, 4.7), WR Hunter Rathke (6-0, 175, 4.5), TE Miles Roy (6-2, 210, 4.5), LB Henry Mulliner (6-0, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Malik Johnny (6-1, 175, 4.5), S Chance Green (5-11, 180, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Ian Thomas (6-1, 185, 4.5).

Other prospects: TE/LB Joey Bruhn, WR Abel Quiroz, CB Dayton Navy, RB Brady Burrow, K Rocco Devita, LB Trent Diffendal, OL Carson Brown, OL Sean Williams.

2025 notes: Tomball has emerged as one of Houston's more consistent programs as the Cougars are fresh off a 10-win season and expecting another strong group in 2025. QB Faldyn (2,052 yards, 20 TDs passing; 697 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a "game-changer," according to Handal. He has two outstanding receivers in WR Rathke (46-661 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and TE Roy (35-526 yards, 6 TDs receiving). Sophomore RB Thomas got moved up late in the year as a freshman and showed plenty of promise averaging over 5 yards per carry. Tomball's defense is led by a pair of outstanding LBs in Schneider (121 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 sacks) and Mulliner (68 tackles, 5 TFL).

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 16-6A Preview

BRIDGELAND BEARS

Coach: Lonnie Madison. Lettermen R/L: 28/52. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 12-1 DI regional finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Kash Schwab (6-0, 185, 4.5), DB Braiden Graves (6-3, 185, 4.5), DB Nicholas Bright (5-11, 160, 4.5), RB Alex Spence Myers (5-10, 200, 4.5), QB Tyler Begeal (6-0, 200, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Chase Allen (6-3, 285, 4.9), OL Austin Holcomb (6-5, 285). Top sophomore: RB Austin Mitchell (6-0, 175).

Other prospects: DB Jordan Harris, WR Trace Meullion, WR Jonathon Taylor, WR Henry Soine, OL Brayden Rammage, LB Chris Adegbenro, LB Wade Thompson.

2025 notes: Bridgeland had its best season in school history, pushing all the way to the regional final before falling in a competitive game to Duncanville. Losing two Power Four offensive linemen hurts, but the rest of the offense remains relatively intact, including RBs Schwab (1,668 yards, 14 TDs rushing; 29-355, 3 TDs receiving) and Spence Myers (801 yards, 13 TDs rushing). QB Begeal (986 yards, 13 TDs passing) takes over full-time after splitting duties the past two seasons. The Bears do have holes to fill on defense, but expect new faces from a 10-0 JV to fill in nicely. The secondary should be stout with the return of DBs Graves (58 tackles) and Bright (34 tackles, 1 INT).

CY LAKES SPARTANS

Coach: Tyrone Carter. Lettermen R/L: 30/24. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Courtney Lewis (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Amiri Barnes (5-11, 165, 4.6), LB Deshaun Butler (5-10, 185, 4.7), QB Jimmy Alarcon (5-9, 160, 4.6), DB Nate Davis (5-10, 160, 4.6), DL Corbin Phillips (6-0, 240). Top juniors: LB Anthony Powell (6-0, 220, 4.9), WR Anthony Bradley (6-0, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR Davion Griffin (5-11, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Ty Newton, RB Theodis Fields, OL/DE Chase Mayes, OL Quinn Dudley, DT Jerome Settler, LB Gavyn Barnes, S Stephen Okulaja, OL Jacoby King.

2025 notes: The Spartans have been playing football since 2010 and have never made the playoffs, but in Carter's second season the tide could turn in their favor after a surprisingly competitive campaign a year ago. Fifteen starters return, many of whom have been starting for two seasons, and the Spartans get some help from a JV team that was 6-4 a year ago. WR Lewis and two-way star WR/DB Barnes gives Cy Lakes plenty of big-play ability, while LB Butler is very productive despite being undersized. QB Alarcon is the operator of the offense and a good decision-maker, according to the staff. Carter says settling on a featured running back will be key along with developing confidence and getting a program-defining win in 2025.

CY PARK TIGERS

Coach: Donald Lawrence. Lettermen R/L: 18/28. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 0-10/0-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Joziah McNeely (5-9, 160, 4.6), OL/DE Agibu Jalloh (6-1, 290), LB Kade Watkins (5-8, 175, 4.7), WR Dustin Monroe (5-10, 150, 4.7), DL Jaden Jones (6-1, 250), QB Nicholas Williams-Murdock (6-0, 150, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Jonathan Roman (6-0, 275), RB/DB Chris Owoeye (5-8, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Chigozie Amadi, RB/DB Ta'Darion Mosley, RB/LB Joel Garcia.

2025 notes: New coach Lawrence, in from Clear Lake, takes over a program that has struggled mightily in recent years as Cy Park has a 30-game losing streak that dates back to the first round of the playoffs in 2021. Sophomore ATH McNeely is an explosive weapon who saw varsity action as a freshman; he's versatile and his position flexibility will be vital due to the uncertainty around what scheme the Tigers will utilize on offense. OL/DE Jalloh saw plenty of time as a sophomore and

will be a major factor in the trenches on both sides of the ball. Junior LB Watkins is undersized but has good speed and can cover plenty of ground.

CY RANCH MUSTANGS

Coach: Will Blaylock. Lettermen R/L: 32/23. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 8-4 DI area finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Calvin Thomas (6-3, 210, 4.5), DL Amari Barnes-Vickerson (6-4, 285), QB Braden Baker (6-5, 180, 4.8), LB Ayden Combs (6-3, 220, 4.8), DL R'Monie Edwards (6-6, 290), ATH William Blaylock II (6-3, 220, 4.6). Top juniors: DB Jacob Lee (5-10, 165, 4.5), WR Manny Leyja (6-2, 185, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB Kristian White (5-11, 190, 4.4).

Other prospects: RB Peyton Thomas, OL Kerrick Winters, DL Quincy Tchikou, WR Joelle Arnette, WR Derrick McCullar II, DB Tromane Harris, DL Arnell Havies, WR John Fox.

2025 notes: Despite taking over after spring ball, Blaylock guided the Mustangs to the area round in his debut. A talented roster returns and Cy Ranch has designs on a district title. LB Thomas (72 tackles, 8 TFL, 7 sacks, 1 INT) and DL Barnes-Vickerson (20 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks) are both high-end recruits with 20-plus offers who lead the defense along with LB Combs (75 tackles, 9 TFL, 4 sacks). Sophomore OL Edwards impressed as a freshman and will be another top-end college recruit before he's done. QB Baker (897 yards, 8 TDs passing; 180 yards, 2 TDs rushing) takes the reins of the offense full-time, while all-state TE Blaylock II could flip to the defensive side this year.

CY SPRINGS PANTHERS

Coach: Oji Fagan. Lettermen R/L: 30/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 8-3 DII bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Paris Melvin (6-0, 180, 4.4), DT Jarvis Spires (6-1, 280, 4.9), QB Jared Hagger (6-1, 215, 4.6), LB Johnathan Ijoma (6-0, 215, 4.7), OL Bryan Brooks (6-4, 260), DE Kristopher Ross (6-1, 245, 4.8). Top juniors: RB Yogi Martin (5-8, 160, 4.5), WR Connor Patrick (6-2, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Gabriel Simpson (5-10, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Jasiah Donofrio-Harris, WR Faris Lababdeh, OL Josiah Davis, OL Jedidiah Martinez, CB Kameron Roberson, LB Luke Reyes, SS Alijah Jackson, LB Austen Mathews.

2025 notes: Coach Fagan has guided the Panthers to the playoffs in back-to-back seasons. The question now is, can Springs take the next step and advance out of the first round? The pieces are in place and it starts with 16-6A MVP ATH Melvin (1,173 yards, 20 TDs rushing; 28-449, 5 TDs receiving; 15 tackles, 2 INTs), who is as dynamic a playmaker as there is in the state. QB Hagger (1,644 yards, 16 TDs passing; 612 yards, 7 TDs rushing) should take a big step forward in his junior season. DT Spires (33 tackles, 9 TFL, 4 sacks) is a force in the middle of the defense, while LB Ijoma (106 tackles, 15 TFL, 2 sacks) was the district's defensive MVP a year ago.

CY WOODS WILDCATS

Coach: Jeremy Hickman. Lettermen R/L: 30/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-3 DII bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Darien Rogers (5-11, 255, 4.7), SS Keyan Pickett (5-10, 185, 4.6), LB Tommy Strickland (6-2, 225, 4.8), CB David Brown (6-1, 170, 4.5), TE Max Terral (6-2, 225, 4.8), WR/K Ben Shipley (6-2, 200, 4.7). Top juniors: S Zachary Nicholas (6-0, 165, 4.6), S Aiden Haby (5-11, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB Corey McKenzie (5-9, 185, 4.7).

2025 notes: New head coach Jeremy Hickman arrives back at Cy Woods after three successful seasons in his hometown at Fort Stockton. He was a defensive assistant at Cy Woods when the school first opened. He says the Wildcats will be young in several spots but still talented. It starts and

District 16-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kash Schwab, Bridgeland

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Calvin Thomas, Cy Ranch

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Cypress Bridgeland (3,653.5)
2. Cypress Ranch (3,507)
3. Cypress Springs (2,919)
4. Cypress Woods (3,401)
5. Cypress Lakes (3,277.5)
6. Waller (2,848)
7. Langham Creek (2,887.5)
8. Cypress Park (3,092)

ends on offense with dynamic QB Rogers (2,287 yards, 28 TDs passing; 503 yards, 12 TDs rushing), who was the 16-6A offensive MVP and is one of the state's most unique talents. The rest of the offensive skill players will be young and new faces will be counted on. The secondary is the strength of the defense with the return of SS Pickett (54 tackles, 1 sack) and CB Brown. LB Strickland (39 tackles, 6 TFL, 4 sacks) is a force, as Hickman calls him, "a coach on the field."

LANGHAM CREEK LOBOS

Coach: Todd Thompson. Lettermen R/L: 16/32. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 4-6/1-6 district.

Players to watch: DL Ezekiel Ayangbile (6-3, 260), OL Micah Reed (6-4, 325), LB Jhadyn Nelson (6-3, 215, 4.8), RB Jordan King (5-9, 170, 4.5), LB Blake Long (5-11, 220), QB Camarre Palmer (6-1, 180, 4.7). Top junior: TE Nicholas Gautam (6-0, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Isaac Lewis (5-9, 170, 4.6).

Other prospect: LB Jakob Flores.

2025 notes: After getting off to a hot 3-0 start, the Lobos struggled during district play. However, there's more to the record than meets the eye, with three losses by three points or less and a fourth loss by just seven, which speaks to the small margins in 16-6A. Defense may be the calling card for LCHS with the return of two playmaking juniors in DL Ayangbile (52 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks) and LB Nelson (54 tackles, 4 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT). The offense has a lot of questions and several sophomores could be asked to play significant roles this season. OL Reed returns for this third season as a starter and will look to pave the way for junior RB King (305 yards, 3 TDs rushing).

WALLER BULLDOGS

Coach: Marcus Mendoza. Lettermen R/L: 19/24. Starters returning O/D: 11/3. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Robert Carter (6-2, 180, 4.6), WR Allen Haynes (6-2, 185, 4.8), DL Ty Tryon (6-4, 240). Top juniors: WR Michael Tshitenge (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL Elias Hall (6-6, 305). Top sophomore: QB TK Gaines (6-2, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: LB Trace Geigley, OL Michael Ballard, WR Glowin Mbobile.

2025 notes: After just two wins in the previous two seasons combined, Waller doubled that total in 2024 and Mendoza says optimism is high that the Bulldogs can push into playoff contention in 2025. A big reason for excitement is an offense that returns every starter, led by sophomore sensation QB Gaines (2,077 yards, 18 TDs passing; 243 yards, 4 TDs rushing), who is one of the state's top young signal-callers. RB Carter (1,425 yards, 13 TDs rushing; 20-272, 1 TD receiving) is a big and physical back who also can be a threat as a receiver. There are questions on defense as just three starters are back, but there's pieces to build on with DL Tryon, who enters 2025 as a three-year starter.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 17-6A Preview

CY CREEK COUGARS

Coach: Deveon McKinney. Lettermen R/L: 22/29. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DL Marlon Cook (6-0, 285), OL Aloisio Tenisi (6-5, 275), RB Garland Wilburn (5-9, 175, 4.7), ATH Cameron Hines (6-0, 170, 4.6), QB Kyle Moss (6-0, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Ngozichukwuka Kwentua (6-2, 240). Top juniors: LB Parker Osborne (6-2, 215, 4.8), OL Bradyn Bloom (6-0, 280). Top sophomore: LB Carson Collins (6-1, 190, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Robert Gray, OL Vincent Wenceslao, DB John Mosley, DL Mekih Woodson, DB Joshua Pridgett, DB Kenneth Le, DB Lawrence Carter, DL Rojaun Cunningham.

2025 notes: After a difficult debut season, McKinney is hopeful the Cougars can get back in the playoff mix with 15 starters back. Junior QB Moss (1,243 yards, 11 TDs passing) had a strong sophomore season and will lead the offense along with versatile RB Wilburn (956 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 110 yards, 1 TD receiving). ATH Hines will be a menace at multiple positions and could be a two-way player. The Cougars defense will be led by DL Cook (44 tackles, 9 TFL, 8 sacks), who is tough to move on the interior of the defense but possesses great quickness for a player his size. Keep an eye on junior LB Osborne, who has good size and speed. McKinney says depth is still an issue across the board.

CY FALLS GOLDEN EAGLES

Coach: Chris Brister. Lettermen R/L: 22/40. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 9-3 DI area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Kaden McCarty (6-2, 220, 4.9), DL James Harris (6-2, 230), RB Gabe Wilson (5-10, 190, 4.6), DB James Henderson (6-2, 180, 4.5), QB Brandon Derbigny (5-10, 180, 4.6), DB Gabe Collins (5-9, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Liam Madkins (5-8, 165, 4.5), WR Murry Charles (6-1, 170, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Deron Simpson (6-1, 210, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR Cameron Colvin, OL Alberto Hernandez, DL Albert Allen, DL Jaylen Parks, WR Darigan Smith, LB Kaiden Jones, LB Casen Warren, WR Lattrel Love.

2025 notes: Cy Falls has advanced to the area playoffs in two of the last three years and picked up an unbeaten district title in 2024. A repeat could be tough with an inexperienced squad returning. Cy Falls was one of the top defensive teams in the Houston area a year ago. Despite just three returning starters, the Golden Eagles will still be stout with the return of DLs MacCarty (59 tackles, 24 TFL, 11 sacks) and Harris (50 tackles, 15 TFL, 8 sacks), along with DBs Henderson (34 tackles, 2 INTs) and Collins (93 tackles). RB Wilson (694 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is slated to take over as the featured back, while QB Derbigny (977 yards, 10 TDs passing) started nine games a year ago.

CY RIDGE RAMS

Coach: Andrew Shanle. Lettermen R/L: 23/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Jayden Williams (6-1, 240), LB Noel Tovar (5-10, 190, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Ethan Allen (5-11, 285), LB Jacob Harpold (5-8, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Braylon Bright (6-0, 145, 4.6).

Other prospect: K Daniel Gutierrez.

2025 notes: The Rams have struggled to climb out from the lower half of the 17-6A standings, and getting that done in 2025 may be tough with just 23 lettermen returning. The good news is 11 starters return, led by good returning experience on the offensive line and at linebacker. OL Williams is a force and will team with junior OL Allen to form a core up front. LB Tovar (78 tackles, 4 TFL) has tremendous instincts and led Cy Ridge in tackles a year ago, while junior LB Harpold has plenty of potential. Sophomore WR/DB Bright has a lot of potential and could be a major contributor this year, as Cy Ridge has a lot of questions at the skill positions.

CY-FAIR BOBCATS

Coach: Jeff Miller. Lettermen R/L: 27/44. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Jayce Robinson (6-0, 225) CB Jaden Vaughn (5-10, 185), CB Alek Askeroglu (5-9, 175), RB Arnell Fontenot (5-9, 180), OL Paolo Arellano (6-3, 280), OL Dahmari Hawkins (6-3, 340). Top juniors: LB Drayton Hawkins (6-0, 185), WR Kevin Ferrygood (6-2, 185).

Other prospects: S Terrence Johns, WR Chase Sanders, DL Jerry Greer, OL Jason Bickel, QB Sean Riegler, WR Henry Brooks, DL Josiah Cassey, DL Jayden Hunter.

2025 notes: The standard is high at Cy-Fair, so going 7-4 and losing in the first round of the playoffs is a surprise. But that's the culture, according to Miller. Look for a lot of new faces from a 9-1 JV team to step in and keep Cy-Fair in the district title hunt. DL Robinson (50 tackles, 9 sacks) is a force up front, while the secondary has two possible FBS prospects in CB Vaughn (3 INTs) and Askeroglu, who is a three-year starter. The offense will be led by RB Fontenot (551 yards, 7 TDs rushing), who has been a letterman since his sophomore season. The offensive line is led by Arellano and Hawkins, who are both big and physical blockers at the point of attack.

JERSEY VILLAGE FALCONS

Coach: Levelle Norris. Lettermen R/L: 30/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DB Cardale Clark (5-10, 155, 4.6), QB Champion Ellis (6-2, 155, 4.7), TE/LB Brad Sheehy (6-2, 235, 4.8), LB Nathan Reyes (5-9, 235, 4.9), RB Jaden Perkins (5-6, 185, 4.7), DE Shyrone Williams (6-1, 235, 4.9). Top juniors: DE Cael Thigpen (6-3, 210, 4.9), OL Calvin Thigpen (6-3, 300). Top sophomore: DE Leo Barbour (6-2, 200, 4.9).

Other prospects: WR Jayden Bingham, WR Spencer Anderson, WR Xavier Pickens, WR Landon Oehlert.

2025 notes: After serving as the interim head coach in 2024, Levelle Norris takes over at Jersey Village on a full-time basis. The Falcons welcome back 30 lettermen, plus they get an infusion of talent from a JV squad that posted a 7-2-1 record. Junior QB Ellis (114 yards, 2 TDs passing) saw varsity action a year ago and will take over the offense full-time. RB Perkins (301 yards, 4 TDs rushing) returns in the backfield and the Falcons have several capable receivers in the pipeline. Defensively, expect the Falcons to be much-improved with the return of TE/LB Sheehy (36 tackles, 6 TFL) and LB Reyes (67 tackles, 4 TFL), who was a first-team all-district selection a year ago. Norris says developing a young offensive line will be key heading into the fall.

MEMORIAL MUSTANGS

Coach: Brooks Haack. Lettermen R/L: 30/27. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 4-7 DII bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Isaac Richardson (6-1, 175, 4.6), ATH Grant Sperandio (6-1, 195, 4.7), LB John Kafka (6-2, 205, 4.8), OL Evan Paul (6-0, 264), DB Jackson Van Wie (6-0, 180, 4.6), OL Deven Jagassar (6-0, 280). Top juniors: WR Ayo Omotosho (5-10, 175, 4.5), QB Dillon Norris (6-2, 195, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL Nick Bennett (6-0, 250).

Other prospects: OL Carson Morer, RB/DB Philip Bandy, RB Julian Rogalski, OL Harrison Rabel, WR Myles Goebel, DB Brett Gulleddge.

2025 notes: For the first time since 1992, someone other than Gary Koch will be leading the Mustangs as Brooks Haack takes over after spending last season as the OC at state champion Richmond Randle. The defense will be a strength early with LBs Richardson (65 tackles, 12 TFL, 6 sacks) and Kafka (35 tackles, 7 TFL, 3 sacks). DB Van Wie (28 tackles) saw a lot of time as a sophomore and will step into a leadership role in the secondary. The offensive line is in good shape with a pair of

District 17-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Davis Kendall, Houston Stratford

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Kaden McCarty, Cy Falls

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Cypress Falls (3,012.5)
2. Cypress-Fairbanks (3,428)
3. Houston Stratford (2,442)
4. Houston Memorial (2,672)
5. Jersey Village (3,399.5)
6. Cypress Creek (3,270.5)
7. Cypress Ridge (2,936)
8. Houston Northbrook (2,800)

three-year starters as anchors in OL Paul and OL Jagassar. Junior QB Norris likely steps into the starting role, and ATH Sperandio is a great athlete committed to play baseball at Texas.

NORTHBROOK RAIDERS

Coach: Demond Stafford. Lettermen R/L: 21/13. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 2-8/0-7 district.

Players to watch: OL Felix Banda (6-1, 270), ATH Trindon Silvernale (5-9, 165, 4.8), LB Landon Sims (6-1, 190, 4.7), RB/DB Antwaan Thomas (5-9, 170, 4.6), DL Tim Berman (6-1, 220). Top juniors: RB/LB Isais Tejada (5-9, 170, 4.6), QB/DB Guillermo Macias (5-8, 160, 4.9). Top sophomore: DE Cameron Hamilton (6-2, 165, 4.6).

Other prospect: LB Lorenzo Villalobos.

2025 notes: The Raiders improved to 2-8 in 2024 in Stafford's first season. For most that would be considered a disappointment; but for long-struggling Northbrook, it was the Raiders' best season since 2015. Stafford and the staff are hoping a full offseason of development will help Northbrook get to a more competitive place within 17-6A. ATH Silvernale can do a little bit of everything and may be asked to play QB, but he'll also see time at WR, RB, in the secondary and in the return game. OL Banda is the anchor of the offensive line and has a great work ethic, according to Stafford. LB Sims is a terror rushing the passer off the edge and can slide into the secondary when needed.

STRATFORD SPARTANS

Coach: Todd Rankin. Lettermen R/L: 40/33. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Foard Polley (6-5, 290), DB Johnathan Joseph (5-8, 175, 4.5), RB Davis Kendall (5-8, 175, 4.5), OL Clayton Nonhof (6-5, 270), LB Jax Blundell (5-11, 200, 4.8), OL Kenny White (6-2, 255). Top juniors: DL Ty Greene (6-4, 260), DL Callan Kirk (6-1, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: LB Liam Leonard (6-0, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Nathan Edwards, LB Dylan Ward, WR Cody Hanlen, WR Xavier Campbell, DB Luke Tamez, QB Gavin Guzman, DL Beck Harger, WR AJ West.

2025 notes: After a trip to the area playoffs for the third time in four years, the Spartans will be retooling a bit in 2025. The good news is Stratford will have a veteran offensive line with four returning starters led by OL Polley, who is generating FBS interest. RB Kendall (551 yards, 6 TDs rushing) had a great offseason and will lead the offense as SHS breaks in a new QB and several new WRs. DB Joseph is another FBS prospect who picked off five passes and took three kicks to the house a year ago. Keep an eye on a pair of junior DLs in Greene (13 tackles) and Kirk, as the coaching staff is excited about their potential. "We lost top notch playmakers, so we'll be looking to see who steps up," said Rankin.

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 18-6A Preview

BELLAIRE CARDINALS

Coach: Herb Kunz. Lettermen R/L: 35/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Will Hazen (6-2, 195, 4.5), WR Tony Miller (5-8, 150, 4.5), ATH Rydell Nathan (5-9, 155, 4.5), ATH Jake Brassington (6-0, 175, 4.7), ATH Chance Diebner (5-6, 170, 4.5), K Cole McLean (5-7, 160, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Paul Wallace (6-2, 255), DE Kris Connor (5-11, 225, 4.7). Other prospects: WR EJ Kirby, OL Delander Pickens, DE Marshall Smith, S Bishop Jones, CB Jarvis Wright, WR/K Jack Pennington, OL Marvin Lainez, WR Cameron Johnson.

2025 notes: The Cardinals have made back-to-back playoff appearances and now Kunz is hopeful his guys are ready to challenge for the district title with 35 lettermen back along with a dozen starters. QB Hazen (1,144 yards, 15 TDs passing; 248 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense. Coach Kunz calls him, "a playmaker with total control on the field." Speedy WR Miller (20-284, 8 TDs receiving) is extremely elusive in space, while sophomore ATH Brassington (388 yards, 7 TDs rushing) returns after an impressive freshman debut. ATH Nathan spent time in the secondary a year ago and could flip to offense this year, while DE Connor (35 tackles, 4 sacks) made a big impact for the Cardinals as a sophomore.

CHAVEZ LOBOS

Coach: Louie Rodriguez. Lettermen R/L: 11/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/DE Kaleb Davis (6-4, 230), WR/CB Johntta Thomas (6-0, 145), OL/DL Manuel Miller Jr. (5-8, 240), LB Jeremiah Villarreal (5-11, 200), DE Daquan James (5-11, 175). Top juniors: OL/DL Esekier Hamm (5-11, 230), WR Marquis Miller (5-5, 130).

Other prospects: RB Angel Coello, WR/DB Jakwan Williams, DB Terrall Dickson.

2025 notes: The good news for the Lobos is they do return 15 starters from last year; the bad news is a lot of those guys play on both sides as just 11 total lettermen are back. Priority No. 1 for Rodriguez and his staff is to try and get the program numbers up. Sophomore TE/DE Davis saw varsity action as a freshman and could be primed for a breakout campaign. WR/CB Thomas (46-74, 10 TDs receiving; 2 INTs) is a two-time all-district selection at WR. The Chavez defense is led by OL/DL Miller, Jr., (53 tackles, 13 TFL, 7 sacks), who is a two-time all-district selection, while DE James (64 tackles, 4 TFL, 4 sacks) was a second-team all-district pick as a sophomore.

HEIGHTS BULLDOGS

Coach: Stephen Dixon. Lettermen R/L: 20/28. Starters returning O/D: 7/2. 2024: 8-4 DI area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Kaden Cole (6-2, 175, 4.5), QB Kobe Miles (5-11, 170, 4.7), LB Joseph Chavez (6-0, 215, 4.9), RB Corian Jacobs (5-10, 170, 4.5), ATH Rasean Mitchell (5-10, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: ATH Markel Morrow (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: DE Regdrik Jackson, LB Mason Carlton, LB Max Robbins, WR Christopher Martin, S Jayden Green, OL Christopher Davis, OL Felix Mora.

2025 notes: Heights has made a habit of advancing in the playoffs as Dixon's squad has made the area round in three straight seasons. Junior QB Miles (1,508 yards, 20 TDs passing) emerged midseason as the leader of the offense and could have a breakout year. His favorite target is WR Cole, who hauled in five touchdown passes a year ago. RB Jacobs ran for 10 scores and will set the pace on the ground. The young Bulldogs defense with just two returning starters will be led by LB Chavez (40 tackles, 10 TFL, 4 sacks). "We have a talented group returning on offense, but our defense will be very inexperienced," said Dixon, who says he's particularly concerned about his young defensive line.

LAMAR TEXANS

Coach: Phillip Lindsey. Lettermen R/L: 29/36. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 8-4 DI area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Enrico Moore-Espinoza (5-9, 180, 4.5), DB Robert McFarland (5-10, 195, 4.6), DE Martin Davis-Wheatfall (6-4, 250, 4.8), OL Jayden Cook (6-0, 290), RB Larry Sanders (5-9, 170, 4.5), DB Prince Washington (6-0, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Jaxon Richmond (6-1, 210, 4.6), WR Ja'Carsten Landor (6-0, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Kyle Behan (6-1, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: QB Lawson Behan, RB Deverick Stone-Hubbard, DT Jaden Rubio, WR Cruz Herrera, OL Hector Campos, LB Jayden Johnson, WR Juelz Wilson, TE Aras Okeke-Zibukus.

2025 notes: The Texans will look to extend on their success the past two years with a blazing fast group of skill players that will make Lamar dangerous come playoff time. WR

District 18-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kobe Miles, Houston Heights

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Robert McFarland, Houston Lamar

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Houston Lamar (3,121)
2. Houston Heights (2,527)
3. Houston Bellaire (3,266)
4. Houston Westside (2,831)
5. Houston Wisdom (2,367)
6. Houston Chavez (2,006)
7. Houston Sam Houston (2,664)

Moore-Espinoza returns after missing almost all of 2024 with an injury; he was newcomer of the year in 2023. WR Landor (21-332, 3 TDs receiving) had a great sophomore debut and gives the Texans a pair of dynamic wideouts. DB McFarland (37 tackles, 3 INTs) is a ball-hawk in the secondary, while junior DB Washington (31 tackles, 1 INT) has big-time talent. DE Davis-Wheatfall (48 tackles, 6 TFL, 4 sacks) is the next great pass rusher from Lamar and will lead a young defensive line unit. "We have a chance to make some noise in December," said Lindsey.

SAM HOUSTON TIGERS

Coach: Damin Schexnayder. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: DB Josue Valentin (6-0, 175), LB Treshaun White (5-8, 185), LB Curtis Bean (5-10, 200), OL/DL Emmanuel Figueroa (5-11, 260), WR/DB Adrian Hernandez (5-6, 145), OL/DL Manuel Gamez (5-8, 275).

Other prospects: RB/LB Travione Sanders, RB/LB Caleb Garza, RB/LB Carlos Perez, WR/DB Rodolfo Perez.

2025 notes: After struggling in 2024, second-year head coach Damin Schexnayder is hopeful as he feels the Tigers will be an improved team up front on both sides of the ball. A big reason for that optimism is the return of two-way stalwarts OL/DL Figueroa and OL/DL Gamez. DB Valentin will anchor the secondary, while LBs White and Bean are able to use their speed to make plays. The skill talent on offense is young and there's a concern there, along with an overall lack of depth. The staff likes the incoming freshmen and several could see time at the varsity level. "This group will run through a wall for each other," said Schexnayder.

WESTSIDE WOLVES

Coach: Cedric Allen. Lettermen R/L: 18/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 3-8 DI bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Calvin Miller (5-10, 300), OL Kenden Bailey (5-11, 275), DE Brandon Doyle (6-1, 225), QB Dillyn White (5-7, 165, 4.7). Top junior: LB Michael White (6-2, 205, 4.6). Top sophomore: DT Kevin Alvarado (6-2, 290).

2025: The Wolves didn't win a game outside of district play a year ago, but they took care of the important games inside of HISD and were able to nab the final playoff spot in 18-6A. The offensive side of the ball has a lot of questions at the skill spots, but they do return the operator of their flexbone offense in QB White (227 yards, 5 TDs passing; 714 yards, 11 TDs rushing). He'll operate behind a veteran group up front anchored by OLs Miller and Bailey. The defense is led by DE Doyle (50 tackles, 13 TFL, 2 sacks). Allen loves his motor and ability to go sideline-to-side and make plays.

WISDOM GENERALS

Coach: Jamarkus Branch. Lettermen R/L: 12/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Ajani Mayeux (6-3, 190, 4.5), OL Juan Alvear (6-2, 260).

2025 notes: First-year head coach Jamarkus Branch had the difficult challenge in his first season at Wisdom of not only taking over the program in mid-July, but also taking over a squad making the jump to Class 6A. Wisdom still has low numbers and getting more players out for the team will be vital as it navigates playing 6A ball against teams with larger numbers. WR Mayeux (36-825, 16 TDs receiving) is a dynamic weapon on the outside and one of the most underrated playmakers in Greater Houston. OL Alvear returns up front to be the leader of the offensive line.



Jaxyn
FALDYN
QB
Tomball



Paris
MELVIN JR
ATH
Cy Springs



Kaden
COLE
WR
Houston Heights



Kash
SCHWAB
RB
Bridgeland

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 19-6A Preview

CINCO RANCH COUGARS

Coach: Chris Dudley. Lettermen R/L: 22/53. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-6/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Davis Roup (6-0, 190, 4.8), RB Marcus Gadlin (5-11, 190, 4.5), WR Jacob Chevez (5-9, 155, 4.6), S Daniel Scarabino (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR Drew Tureau (5-10, 175, 4.7), RB Brayden Gonzalez (5-9, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: S Andrew Reagan (5-7, 160, 4.7), S Tim Killam (5-8, 165, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR Max Williams (5-9, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Jeremiah Adams, DT Brayden Hopkins, OL Nathan Olivier, CB Jaylon Poledore, OL Carter Kripki, LB Christian Jackson, WR Rex Rivera, LB Jacob Forinash.

2025 notes: The Cougars will lean on a plethora of offensive skill talent to get back into the playoff race after a disappointing 2024 season. QB Roup will lead the offense after serving as a backup last year. Two years ago as an injury replacement, he threw for 1,700 yards and 17 touchdowns. RB Gadlin (578 yards, 11 TDs rushing) is a physical runner with outstanding speed and is generating FBS interest on the recruiting trail. WR Chevez (14-223, 4 TDs receiving) impressed as a freshman and will team with WR Tureau (41-950, 9 TDs receiving) to give CRHS two elite threats down the field. S Scarabino (106 tackles) is an impact player and elite kick returner. Dudley says team speed on defense is a question mark heading into fall camp.

JORDAN WARRIORS

Coach: Mike Rabe. Lettermen R/L: 32/39. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 11-2 DII region semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Tanner West (6-2, 185, 4.5), DL Jimmy-Phrisco Alo-Suliafu (6-4, 255, 4.9), DB Zac Taylor (6-1, 180, 4.4), QB Beau Bryant (6-0, 180, 4.6), DB Austin Baird (5-11, 175, 4.4), WR Landon Williams (6-2, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Luc Broussard (6-2, 260), DL Elijah Wright (6-3, 250, 4.9). Top sophomore: LB Tucker Hess (6-0, 235, 4.8).

Other prospects: TE Benedict Okwura, DB O'fernamei Adelowo, LB Jeremy Alo-Perry, DL Mason Lambert, RB Alexander Guillory, OL Xander Gard, RB Patrick Spann, DL Jaylen Brue.

2025 notes: The Warriors made it to Thanksgiving weekend for the first time in school history. With 32 lettermen back and help from a 9-1 JV team, they could be better in 2025. RB West (694 yards, 10 TDs rushing; 30-534, 3 TDs receiving) will become the focal point of the offense after the graduation of Michigan signee WR Andrew Marsh. QB Bryant (1,213 yards, 10 TDs passing; 619 yards, 6 TDs rushing) could be primed for a big senior season. DL Alo-Suliafu (70 tackles, 10 TFL, 9 sacks) is a dominant pass rushing force and demands constant attention from the opposing offense. The secondary should be solid with the return of DBs Taylor (53 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 INT) and Baird (32 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 INT).

KATY TIGERS

Coach: Gary Joseph. Lettermen R/L: 38/39. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 11-2 DI region semifinalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Jeremiah Smith (6-1, 210, 4.5), DB Isaiah McMillan (6-0, 180, 4.5), DB Cooper Knott (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL LeMar Brown (6-3, 295), RB Trey Hill (5-11, 205, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Isaac Coughran (6-4, 270), DT Terry Brister (5-9, 255). Top sophomore: RB Scott Zuehlke, Jr. (5-10, 205, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Reid Garrelts, WR Cade McCall, RB/DB Aqualis Jordan, DB Josh Garcia, OL Andrew Freeze, DB Mason Dismuke, K Geovani Moreno, OL Adedapo Adetosoye.

2025 notes: Katy could be primed to leap back to the top of the pecking order in Houston in 2025 on the strength of a defense that returns eight starters. LB Smith (50 tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks) is a two-time first-team all-district pick and the leader of the defense. DB McMillan (47 tackles, 4 INTs) is among the best cover guys in the state and is a force in the return game. He teams with DB Knott (60 tackles, 6 TFL, 1 INT) to give Katy plenty of experience in the secondary. RBs Hill (1,330 yards, 20 TDs rushing) and Jordan (938 yards, 11 TDs rushing) are a dynamic backfield duo operating behind OL Brown. Inexperience at QB will be among the big question marks going into 2025.

MAYDE CREEK RAMS

Coach: Mike Arobonglo. Lettermen R/L: 23/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 5-5/3-5 district.

Players to watch: DE Kosi Okpala (6-3, 215), LB Christian Arobonglo (6-0, 210), S Trennian Stidham (6-0, 175), WR Chad Nelson (5-8, 170), S Tre Wimberly (6-1, 180), TE Tristan Swartz (6-4, 215), WR Aaron Ward.

2025 notes: Considering he was hired just before Memorial Day a year ago, 2024 was a success for the Rams in Arobonglo's first season leading the program. With 15 starters returning and a full offseason under their belts, the Rams are looking to challenge for their first playoff appearance since 2019. WR Nelson (60-801, 7 TDs receiving) is an explosive weapon for the offense, but there are question marks for Mayde Creek with youth on the offensive line and inexperience at QB. The defense should be strong with DE Okpala, who is a pass rushing menace off the edge, while LB Arobonglo (70 tackles) flies around and makes plays. "We have exceptional team speed and this team has developed great chemistry," says Coach Arobonglo.

MORTON RANCH MAVERICKS

Coach: Nick Cavallo. Lettermen R/L: 26/38. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: WR Tyler Williams (6-4, 190, 4.5), RB Tyler Gilmore (6-1, 210, 4.6), DL Great Obikili (5-10, 210, 4.8), DL Simeon Fontenette (6-3, 205, 4.8), OL Douglas Hammond (6-2, 265), DB Denrie Hamilton (6-2, 175, 4.5), WR Chase William (5-11, 180, 4.6), DE Henry Reed (6-3, 190, 4.6), DB Key'on Jenkins (5-7, 160, 4.5), QB Jayceon Jenkins, DB Regan Nichols, WR Trevor Lazar, ATH Stanley Dorsey, WR Chaseley Meche, TE Tylan Eli, LB Donovan Sims, WR Torion Elam.

2025 notes: It was a rough debut season for Cavallo, as the Mavs failed to win a game, but with eight starters back on both sides of the ball expect MRHS to take a step forward. WR Williams is a big and physical target on the outside, while RB Gilmore combines good size with the ability to break a big run. Cavallo says the offensive line, which returns four starters, will be a big strength. Morton Ranch has good experience returning on the defensive line with the return of DL Obikili and Fontenette, while junior DE Reed is expected to be a pass rushing force off the edge. DB Hamilton is a big and physical player in the secondary, who is outstanding in run support.

PAETOW PANTHERS

Coach: David Hicks. Lettermen R/L: 23/52. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Daryl Campbell (6-2, 310), OL William Thronton (6-2, 280), DB Jaeden Spelmon (6-0, 170, 4.5), LB Samuel Wright (6-1, 210, 4.5), RB Curtis Zeno (6-0, 185, 4.5), ATH Key'Tavien Williams (5-9, 175, 4.5), LB Cayden Ayro (6-0, 200, 4.6), WR Tyler Washington (6-0, 170, 4.5), DL Jayden Vasse (6-1, 250), LB Lydon Johnson, RB Kenneth Lee, DB Carde Crist.

2025 notes: Hicks got the Panthers turned in the right direction a year ago as they made their first playoff appearance as a 6A program. The bad news is they lost a stellar class of 52 seniors. The offense will be led by a pair of juniors in RB Zeno (560 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and WR Washington (18-320, 2 TDs receiving), while OL Thronton is back as a two-time all-district selection. DL Campbell (34 tackles, 8 TFL, 5 sacks) is a force in the middle of the defense, "with a high motor," according to Coach Hicks. DB Spelmon picked off six passes a year ago, while ATH Williams (45 tackles) handles punting duties, returns kicks and will be a factor on offense in 2025.

SEVEN LAKES SPARTANS

Coach: Jimmy Hamon. Lettermen R/L: 16/56. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 4-6/2-6 district.

Players to watch: TE Peter Noonan (6-3, 235), DL Hayden Gandolfo (6-1, 255), ATH Matt Fowler (5-11, 175, 4.6), LB Evan Burt (6-1, 220, 4.8), RB Edgar Varela (6-0, 225, 4.7), LB Kannon Floyd (6-1, 220, 4.8), RB Braylon Hayes (5-11, 170, 4.5), OL Matthew Krock (6-3, 240), RB Chace Janda (5-10, 175, 4.8), WR Ryan Fowler, DB Jack Marchitello, OL Marcelo Goldberg-Herrera, OL Simon Martinez-Rosales, DL Jai'Don Hudson.

2025 notes: The Spartans have some pieces to build around after going 4-6 a year ago, as half their

District 19-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Ethan Meadows, Katy Tompkins

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jeremiah Smith, Katy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Katy (3,520.5)
2. Katy Jordan (3,133)
3. Katy Tompkins (3,071)
4. Katy Paetow (3,746)
5. Katy Cinco Ranch (3,790)
6. Katy Mayde Creek (3,025.5)
7. Katy Taylor (3,209.5)
8. Katy Morton Ranch (2,863)
9. Katy Seven Lakes (3,731)

starters return, but a lot of depth and playmaking was lost as 56 seniors graduated. SLHS brings back a pair of productive RBs in Varela (359 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and Hayes (284 yards, 2 TDs rushing), while TE Noonan (15-236, 1 TD receiving) is a strong blocker who is a threat in the passing game. ATH Fowler (3 receiving TDs; 21 tackles, 1 INT) will likely again be used on both sides of the ball. DL Gandolfo (29 tackles, 9 TFL, 5 sacks, 1 INT) and LB Burt (56 tackles, 1 INT) return and will lead the Seven Lakes defense.

TAYLOR MUSTANGS

Coach: Chris Babin. Lettermen R/L: 28/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: RB Xavier Haynes (5-9, 185, 4.5), S Landon Pina (5-10, 185, 4.5), RB Javion Garrett (6-2, 205, 4.6), WR Cameron Lewis (5-11, 155, 4.4), WR Josh Jacobson (6-0, 185, 4.5), S Connor Chnupa (5-7, 175, 4.8), WR Will Dyson (6-1, 150, 4.5), LB Nicholas Grafe (6-0, 200, 4.7), DB Josiah Hooks (5-9, 160, 4.5), LB Bryant McKinney, DB Jonathan Rodriguez, DB Jason Kennedy, QB Garrett Barham, RB Derek Story, OL James Lombardi, LB Youssef Ghazal, LB Carson Petree.

2025 notes: New head coach Chris Babin comes over from Katy Jordan, where he was an assistant, but he doesn't lack head coaching experience having spent nine seasons as a head coach at three different programs in the Golden Triangle. The Mustangs will implement a 3-back gun offense with speedy RB Haynes (640 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and powerful RB Garrett (327 yards, 2 TDs rushing) leading the charge. Junior WR Lewis (9-197, 2 TDs receiving) has big play ability with his speed and he'll join versatile WR Jacobson (16-279, 3 TDs receiving) as reliable targets in the passing game. The secondary is the strength for the defense with junior S Pina (56 tackles) and senior DB Chnupa (35 tackles) returning. The staff also likes the potential of speedy sophomore DB Hooks.

TOMPKINS FALCONS

Coach: Todd McVey. Lettermen R/L: 27/38. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Ethan Meadows (5-11, 180, 4.5), DE Ryan Machado (6-2, 200, 4.8), TE Will Mayes (6-6, 225, 4.8), RB Carter Young (5-10, 180, 4.7), LB Colton Simonton (5-11, 215, 4.8), DB Riley Jones (5-11, 160, 4.6), OL Phoenix Smith (6-1, 300), DB Blake Jenkins (5-11, 180, 4.6), WR Tade Bello (5-10, 170, 4.5), QB Manny Holmes, QB JP Vacklavik, RB/DB Robert Bernard, RB Fabio Aguirre, LB Charles Holberry, DL Leo Flett, DL Dominic Collaso, OL JP Culotta.

2025 notes: The Falcons expect to contend at or near the top of the district with 13 starters returning along with help from a strong JV team that posted a 7-3 record. RB Meadows (1,316 yards, 22 TDs rushing) had a big sophomore season and will be the focal point of the offense. Junior OL Smith didn't allow a sack as a sophomore and will be the anchor up front. Look for junior LB Simonton to be a key cog in the defense along with DE Machado, who returns after missing 2024 with an injury. The Tompkins secondary should be solid with the return of DB Jones (28 tackles, 1 INT) and DB Jenkins (1 INT).

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 20-6A Preview

ELSIK RAMS

Coach: Shea Rodriguez. Lettermen R/L: 18/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 2-9 DI bi-district finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Reilarean Phillips (6-1, 205), QB Kaden Mendenhall (6-4, 190), WR Dajon Patterson (6-1, 180), CB Courtney Thompson (5-6, 150), OL Jayveion Ruff (6-4, 250), RB Brandon Smith (5-8, 195). Top juniors: WR/LB Jaden Thompson (5-8, 150), LB Maurice Smith (6-0, 210). Top sophomore: RB Christopher Dismuke (5-7, 175).

Other prospects: LB Cordell Flowers, LB Daevon Arias-Tubbs, DE Koi Reed, OL Abdul Durosini, CB Uchenna Abonyi, DB Devin Harris, DB Ja'Seer Colbert, DL Mason Allen.

2025 notes: The Rams only won two games a year ago but made them count as they were able to slip into the playoffs for the first time in 10 years. Rodriguez says Elsik will be young in several spots, but there's improved overall speed and athleticism. LB Phillips (65 tackles, 9 TFL, 1 sack) is generating FBS interest and in a pinch can play offense as he scored four times on that side of the ball a year ago. QB Mendenhall (2,157 yards, 21 TDs passing; 345 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back for a third season leading the charge. He has a high football IQ, according to the staff. RB Smith (432 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 232 yards, 2 TDs receiving) and talented sophomore RB Dismuke will give the Rams a dynamic running game.

FOSTER FALCONS

Coach: Shane Hanks. Lettermen R/L: 24/42. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-7 DII bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Riley Blanton (6-0, 165, 4.4), OL/DL Shaun McDowell (6-1, 280), WR Langston Hogan (6-2, 180, 4.4), LB Eli Smith (5-10, 205, 4.7), OL Bruce Santos (6-1, 265), LB Jahshel Ivey (5-11, 210, 4.7). Top juniors: DB Caden Bateman (5-10, 155, 4.6), OL Holden Holchak (6-0, 280). Top sophomore: WR Jaleel Umeh (6-1, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: QB Kaleb Lawson, DB Aiden Clark, LB/P Blake Vaughn, RB Jordan Williams, WR Cooper Venable, DE Cade Boucaumont, RB Byron Fantroy, DB Jonavan Montanez.

2025 notes: After getting back to the playoffs a year ago, Hanks believes Foster is ready to take another step and contend for a district title with 15 starters back. ATH Blanton is a force, so look for the Falcons to find creative ways to get him the football. He could also be in contention for the QB job. WRs Hogan and Umeh are also players to keep an eye on. OL Santos will lead a veteran group along the offensive line. LBs Ivey (53 tackles, 2 sacks) and Smith are the centerpieces of a veteran defense, while junior DB Bateman (2 INTs) is back after impressing as a sophomore. Hanks says this senior class with several three-year starters is key, but depth is a concern.

FULSHEAR CHARGERS

Coach: Stephen Hill. Lettermen R/L: 24/33. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 12-1 DI region semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Mike Brown (5-9, 170, 4.5), OL Righteous Spencer (6-2, 330), TE Trey Giametta (6-2, 225, 4.6), QB Ryland Forks (5-10, 165, 4.6), LB Evan Ferns (6-0, 170, 4.7), DB David Obanor (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: OL David Colom (6-0, 275), RB Seth Jones (5-10, 175, 4.5).

2025 notes: Fresh off their best season in school history, the Chargers will have a new head coach as state champion assistant Stephen Hill comes over from Randle to lead the program. The Chargers will move away from their run-based offense to a more wide open spread attack, which means QB Forks (1,784 yards, 20 TDs passing) and ATH Brown (32-567, 10 TDs receiving) could put up some big numbers. OL Spencer is a force up front, while TE Giametta is a dynamic blocker and receiver. The defense has a few more question marks, as eight starters graduated. LB Ferris returns and will provide senior leadership, while junior DB Obanor will be the leader of the secondary. Hill says overall team speed is a concern going into 2025.

GEORGE RANCH LONGHORNS

Coach: Casey Vogt. Lettermen R/L: 33/31. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Hayden Drinkard (5-8, 170, 4.6), OL Michael Gonzales (5-11, 245), DL Kaegan Mahone (5-10, 265), DB Cade Marino (6-0, 175, 4.8), TE Elijah Zurek (6-2, 220, 4.9), ATH Ellison Collins IV (6-3, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: QB Tony Morrison (6-1, 175, 4.9), DB Colton Marino (6-0, 165, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL Asif Ahmed (6-4, 320).

Other prospects: OL Destiny Anozie, OL Josh Brooks, OL David McDowell, WR Nick Perez, LB Josh Oghor, ATH Trevor Bieleit, CB Vance Raval, LB Michael Wobbe.

2025 notes: RB Drinkard (1,545 yards, 14 TDs rushing) is back for a third season and has elite vision and change-of-direction ability. QB Morrison moved up to varsity late in the year and will get an opportunity to lead the offense. DB Marino (55 tackles, 2 INTs) was one of the top tacklers on the team as a junior,

District 20-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB John Hebert, Houston Strake Jesuit

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Reilarean Phillips, Alief Elsik

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Fulshear (2,925)
2. Houston Strake Jesuit (2,780)
3. Richmond Foster (2,600)
4. Alief Elsik (4,045)
5. Richmond George Ranch (2,396)
6. Alief Hastings (3,838)
7. Alief Taylor (2,824)

and the staff says he has a nose for the football. DL Mahone is back and should take a step forward along the defensive front. GRHS returns all five starters on the offensive line and that experience will be a big strength going into 2025.

HASTINGS BEARS

Coach: Michael Carter. Lettermen R/L: 20/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Madden Harvey (5-10, 160), OL Xavier Obiero-Hyter (6-3, 320), OL Quinton Walters (6-1, 260), LB David Umah (6-0, 200), DB Jaylin Scott (5-11, 175), LB Azeem Solabi (5-10, 180), WR Rishaun Jones (5-11, 165), DL Kenneth Alfonso (6-1, 245), K Angel Vigil, RB Altin Hayes, OL Eduardo Sanchez, LB Gabriel Gray, LB Archie Larry, DL Boma Asembebo.

2025 notes: It all starts with QB Harvey, who enters his third season at the controls of the Hastings spread offense. A second year in the scheme should do wonders for his production. He's working behind a veteran offensive line that returns four starters anchored by OL Obiero-Hyter, who is a three-year starter. There will be youth at the skill spots, as only junior WR Jones returns as a starter, so new faces will need to mature quickly. The strength of the defense will be the linebackers, with Solabi and junior Umah returning along with junior DB Scott.

STRAKE JESUIT CRUSADERS

Coach: Donovan Fikac. Lettermen R/L: 26/36. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 9-4 DII region semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB John Hebert (6-0, 195, 4.6), DL Macgregor Byers (6-5, 260), LB Wesley Stewart (6-1, 185, 4.8), OL Juan Carlos Martinez (6-1, 265), DB Bryce Samuels (5-9, 155, 4.6), WR Dario Contreras (5-11, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: TE Miller Leslie (6-2, 180, 4.9), LB Paolo Masso (6-0, 195, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Zander Hoover (5-10, 155).

Other prospects: DB Luke Leone, LB Hayden Summers, RB Cannon Aramburo, LB Nick Starling, DL Charlie Pesek, ATH Grayson Ochoa, DB Daniel Yarbrough, QB Jack Wegleitner.

2025 notes: Strake Jesuit is fresh off one of its best seasons since joining the UIL and although a strong senior class has moved on, there are some quality pieces back in the fold. The headliner is the return of RB Hebert (3,532 yards, 40 TDs rushing), who had one of the best single-season rushing performances in state history. He's back for an encore, but expect a lot of loaded boxes to try to slow him down as Strake breaks in a new QB. DL Byers (48 tackles, 11 TFL, 10 sacks) is a force up front, while LB Stewart (67 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 sacks) has the ability to run sideline-to-sideline and is an excellent open-field tackler.

TAYLOR LIONS

Coach: Shawn Gray. Lettermen R/L: 18/27. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Dillan Whiteside (6-4, 335), QB Nick Kongolo (6-4, 175, 4.8), LB Chris Fierros (5-8, 185, 4.9), WR Evan Simien (5-9, 165, 4.5), DB Danilo Penso (5-9, 170, 4.7), CB Quam Olaniyi (6-0, 175, 4.5), ATH Chukwuma Nwankwo (5-9, 175, 4.5), RB Hameer Shokunle, OL Jaylon Leonard, DE Ikenna Nwawueze, DE Jaymes Porter, DT Chriso Fagbamila, DB Patrick Carter, TE Jaiden Smith, WR Nikolas Johnson.

2025 notes: OL Whiteside is the leader in the trenches; if he gets his hands on you, you are going where he wants you to go. Junior QB Kongolo (250 yards, 2 TDs passing) saw limited varsity action a year ago but is slated to take over the offense, and WR Simien (15-187, 1 TD receiving) will be one of the top targets. LB Fierros (61 tackles, 7 TFL, 2 sacks) is the leader in the 4-3 scheme, while DBs Penso (70 tackles, 11 TFL, 2 sacks) and Olaniyi (18 tackles) are back for Taylor in the secondary.



Isaac
RICHARDSON
LB
Houston Memorial



Foard
POLLEY
OL
Houston
Stratford



Kaden
COLE
WR
Houston Heights



Enrico
MOORE-ESPINOZA
WR
Houston Lamar

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 21-6A Preview

AUSTIN BULLDOGS

Coach: Trey Hermann. Lettermen R/L: 28/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Koen Hermann (6-1, 180, 4.6), LB Zach Ashour (6-2, 210, 4.6), DE Cortez Cook (6-3, 220, 4.6), WR Mo Poko (6-2, 195, 4.5), LB Jacobi Patterson (5-9, 185, 4.5), OL Aidan Stecher (5-10, 255), Top juniors: RB Trent McCoy (5-9, 200, 4.5), OL Moaz Abdelmotilib (5-10, 245). Top sophomore: LB Wayne Hermann (5-11, 190, 4.8).

Other prospect: LB Titus Anastasi.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs have knocked on the door of their first playoff appearance since 2013 the past two seasons, but have fallen a bit short. Returning experience at QB and in the trenches could make the difference for Coach Hermann's squad in 2025. QB Hermann (1,833 yards, 15 TDs passing; 355 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back for a third season to operate the offense. WR Poko (33-597, 5 TDs receiving) is a big-play target on the outside, while junior RB McCoy (205 yards, 2 TDs rushing) is expected to take over as the feature back. LB Ashour (41 tackles, 11 TFL, 7 sacks) is a terror rushing the passer off the edge, while DE Cook (31 tackles, 5 sacks) is back after missing four games with an injury.

BUSH BRONCOS

Coach: Colonious McNeal. Lettermen R/L: 21/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: CB Robert Bankhead (5-10, 160, 4.5), LB McBright Ndukwe (6-3, 205, 4.5), WR Kenny Okunnu (5-11, 160, 4.5), DE TJ Isiorho (6-4, 205, 4.8), WR Anthony Poe (5-10, 185, 4.6), OL Nick Afanou (5-11, 250). Top junior: OL Isaiah Neal-Woodard (6-4, 310). Top sophomore: WR/FS Ashton Eakins (6-0, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: DT Jaiden Alvarado, LB Devin Jacobs, ATH DeAaron Davis, TE/DE Chibuike Amadi, OL/DT Kameron Robinson.

2025 notes: To say 2024 was a tough year for the Broncos would be an understatement after the sudden passing of HC Allen Aldridge in September. New HC Colonious McNeal takes over a veteran team that he thinks has the potential to take a step forward and compete for a playoff spot. CB Bankhead picked off three passes a year ago and will lead the secondary, while LB Ndukwe (56 tackles, 7 TFL) returns after earning first-team all-district honors. WR Okunnu (30-421, 3 TDs receiving) is the top returning offensive playmaker, while WR Poe is back after averaging 17 yards per reception. Sophomore WR/FS Eakins saw varsity action as a freshman and could be a two-way standout.

CLEMENTS RANGERS

Coach: Bobby Darnell. Lettermen R/L: 28/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: RB George Jreissaty (5-7, 155, 4.7), QB Trey Rivera (5-11, 150, 4.8), LB Bryan Zambrana (5-10, 195), OL Brandon Evans (6-8, 315), LB Conner Moore (5-11, 200). Top junior: DL Do'Ron Spooner (6-1, 240). Top sophomore: DL Marley Nickerson (6-2, 250).

Other prospects: WR/K Albert Zhou, DB Jhoneiker Valderrama, DB Bo Cimino, LB Amir Colbert-Holmes, WR Braylon Barnes.

2025 notes: After making the playoffs in back-to-back seasons in 2021 and 2022, Clements fell on hard times last year with just a single win. Darnell says starting 15 sophomores last year should start to pay dividends with improved results. RB Jreissaty (829 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 33-257, 1 TD receiving) is a versatile back who ran for 100 yards in three games as a sophomore. QB Rivera (947 yards, 6 TDs passing) is the leader of the offense, "As he goes, we will go," said Darnell. The defense brings a ton of experience back with LBs Zambrana and Moore (57 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks) leading the charge. There are two young defensive linemen that have potential in junior DL Spooner (30 tackles) and sophomore DL Nickerson.

DULLES VIKINGS

Coach: Bill Garrey. Lettermen R/L: 17/19. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: DL Jordan Ohakawa (6-2, 270, 4.9), RB Camron Campbell (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR Caleb Hayes (6-2, 190, 4.7), OL Morion LaBlanc (6-3, 320), RB Magnuz Bucklin (5-11, 200, 4.9), RB/LB Matthew Akintola (5-11, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: WR Daniel Johnson (6-0, 150, 4.9), DB Barachel Kiza (5-8, 145, 4.8). Top sophomore: DB Jaheim Gordon (5-6, 135, 4.7).

Other prospects: DB Devinaer Haynes, LB Carmine Forame, WR/DB Christian Lira, OL Andy Vasquez, LB Nick Reese, OL Jacob Whitehill, DB Chenier Ratcliff, OL Alexander Aderunbuye.

2025 notes: After going 1-9 in back-to-back seasons, Garrey believes Dulles can make some strides in 2025 as the Vikings return 14 starters. RB Campbell (488 yards, 4 TDs rushing) has game-breaking ability and should carry the load in the power spread offensive attack. WR Hayes started three games at QB a year ago but is likely to move back to his natural position of WR. DL Ohakawa (55 tackles, 10 TFL, 4 sacks) is the headliner on the defense and will demand constant double teams from the opposition. Junior RB/LB Akintola could be asked to contribute on both sides of the ball. Garrey says questions at QB and improving numbers in the program are two big keys going into fall camp.

ELKINS KNIGHTS

Coach: Trae Grimes. Lettermen R/L: 17/32. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-5 DII area finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Saxon Gumabong, TE David Red, LB Emari Heyman, RB Tyson Craft, OL Elijah Bird, DB Camari Lewis. Top junior: LB Mikael Jones. Top sophomore: ATH Kaleb Woodard.

Other prospects: LB Omosefe Ayemere, RB Jay Palmer, WR Ethan Ramos, DB Ladavian Red, OL Lawrence Freeman, ATH Michael Holmes.

2025 notes: The Knights were a pleasant surprise a year ago posting a playoff appearance and a first-round win. A good senior class of 32 has graduated so some young guys will need to step up to keep the momentum going. Offensively, the Knights return some firepower with speedy WR Gumabong (43-941, 9 TDs receiving) leading the way along with junior RB Craft, who was a first-team all-district selection as a sophomore. The defense will be led by LB Heyman (88 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT); he's a prototype linebacker who has good size and speed and arrives at the ball carrier with bad intentions.

HIGHTOWER HURRICANES

Coach: Cornelius Anthony. Lettermen R/L: 19/32. Starters returning O/D: 7/2. 2024: 9-2 DII bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: DE Devyn Phillip (6-3, 215, 4.7), DT Chris Carrol (6-3, 250, 4.8), QB Khylin Davis (6-0, 200, 4.5), RB Maden Montgomery (6-1, 190, 4.5), WR Kentrell Mosley (5-10, 165, 4.5), S Jeremiah Jernigan (6-2, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Cornelius Anthony II (5-10, 185, 4.7), DE Oluwatomilola Ajao (6-4, 205, 4.6). Top sophomore: ATH Dailon Denkins (6-2, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Lee Reeves, OL Christopher Coleman, OL Antonio Castillo, LB Xavier Vincent, WR Savii Smith, DB Barack Sandles, LB Xavier Edwards, CB Peyton Kirkpatrick.

2025 notes: After a nine-win regular season, the Hurricanes faced playoff disappointment with a first-round playoff defeat. Anthony brings back seven starters on offense, so expect the 'Canes to be potent with the return of QB Davis (412 yards, 4 TDs passing) and RB Montgomery (298 yards, 2 TDs rushing) along with explosive junior WR Mosley. The defense only has two starters back, but what they lack in quantity, they make up for in quality with the return of DE Phillip (48 tackles, 21 TFL, 13 sacks) and DT Carrol (38 tackles, 12 TFL, 7 sacks).

District 21-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Saxon Gumabong, Fort Bend Elkins

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Devyn Phillip, Fort Bend Hightower

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Fort Bend Ridge Point (2,863.5)
2. Fort Bend Hightower (2,530.5)
3. Fort Bend Travis (3,147)
4. Fort Bend Elkins (2,731)

5. Fort Bend Austin (2,563.5)
6. Fort Bend Bush (2,423)
7. Fort Bend Clements (2,620.5)
8. Fort Bend Dulles (2,295.5)

There are three juniors who could emerge as impact players in S Jernigan, DB Anthony II and DE Ajao. Coach Anthony says inexperience is a concern, but the young guys are talented after posting a 10-0 JV record a year ago.

RIDGE POINT PANTHERS

Coach: Rick LaFavers. Lettermen R/L: 29/50. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 10-2 DI area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: OL Avery Morcho (6-5, 300), OL Hugh Smith (6-5, 300), LB Preston Hall (6-3, 215, 4.7), DL Romaine Smith (6-4, 240, 4.7), OL Jordan Burnett (6-5, 345), WR Bailen George (6-0, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Dyllon Bennett (6-0, 215, 4.6), DB Bryson Dossett (5-11, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: LB Brayden Bonik (6-1, 195, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Robert Haynes, DB Aaron Williams, CB Lakaiden Fortenberry, DB Jermiane Santana-Diaz, WR DJ Darling, DL Robaire Smith, DL Kenney Ezeji, DB Ethan Washington.

2025 notes: The Panthers enter 2025 loaded for a possible run to contend for a regional title with 13 returning starters along with incoming help from JV teams that were a combined 15-5. RPHS will have one of the state's best groups on the OL, led by Morcho, Smith and Burnett. WR George (31-442, 7 TDs receiving) leads a deep and talented group of receivers, but the Panthers have to replace an elite signal-caller. LaFavers says they have three capable candidates. LB Hall (33 tackles, 12 TFL, 4 sacks) and DL Smith (42 tackles, 17 TFL, 7 sacks) are the headliners for a defense loaded with talent. The Panthers are among the most talented teams in the state with 15 players holding FBS offers, and if the QB situation works itself out, this is a state title contending squad in 2025.

TRAVIS TIGERS

Coach: Trey Sissom. Lettermen R/L: 25/27. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-6 DI bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR David Brewer (6-1, 180, 4.5), DB Davis Kinney (6-1, 195, 4.5), LB Malcolm Graham (6-3, 225, 4.7), WR Ethan Williams (6-1, 185, 4.5), DT Grant Merritt (6-4, 285). Top juniors: LB Tyler Hubert (6-1, 185, 4.7), WR Kingston McBayne (6-1, 165, 4.6).

Other prospect: DB Josh Vilmael.

2025 notes: The Tigers were able to get into the playoffs a year ago with a relatively young team, and now Sissom believes his team is ready to challenge in a tough 21-6A race. WR Brewer (29-369, 7 TDs receiving) is a big-play force on the outside and leads a veteran group of skill players. The biggest question for the offense will be replacing four of five starting offensive linemen from 2024. The defense has an all-state level talent in DB Kinney, who picked off an impressive seven passes a year ago and had five return touchdowns from defense and the kicking game. LB Graham is a big and physical linebacker, who has great length and covers a ton of ground.

DC
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David Campbell
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 22-6A Preview

ALVIN YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Matt Bass. Lettermen R/L: 25/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jacob Baez (5-11, 230, 4.9), OL Jacobi Small (6-0, 260), FS Kash Powledge (5-10, 160, 4.8), RB Keegan Moore (5-11, 175, 4.8), RB/LB Turtle Orozco (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Jaren Casas (5-10, 180, 4.9), LB Will Mauerhan (5-9, 170, 4.8), QB James Keeland (6-1, 170, 4.8), TE Brayden Wright (6-2, 220, 4.9), OL Jeremiah Lewis, LB Trace Martinez, DL Ashton Dean, DE Colton Meier, WR/CB Hayden Perkins, DB Jordan Lee, OL Ethan McCormick.

2025 notes: New coach Bass, an Alvin alum who was most recently Shadow Creek's DC, takes over. Alvin is seeking its first playoff appearance since 2005 as the long-struggling program looks for a breakthrough. The strength of the team will be the offensive line where four starters return, led by OL/DL Baez and OL Small. Baez could be asked to contribute on the defensive line, as well. The flexbone offense will utilize many different backs, including RBs Moore and Orozco, who is a Swiss Army Knife. The defense will be led by LBs Casas (45 tackles) and LB Mauerhan (40 tackles), along with FS Powledge, who moved to defense last year after starting six games as a sophomore at QB.

DAWSON EAGLES

Coach: Mike Allison. Lettermen R/L: 20/37. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Josiah McFarland (5-11, 180), WR/DB Corey Brown (5-10, 170), OL Carter Ceasar (6-1, 280), LB Bryson Flynn (6-2, 195, 4.5), K Noah Abela (5-10, 165), DB Dylan Wilturmer (5-10, 165), LB James Higgins (5-10, 220), QB Luke Brown (5-10, 155), RB Evan DeLucia (5-9, 195).

2025 notes: Dawson was eliminated from the playoffs a year ago on a tiebreaker in the final week of the season in heartbreaking fashion. The Eagles will look to take care of what they can control and leave no doubt as to their playoff standing in 2025. Junior WR/DB Brown (60-761, 4 TDs receiving; 207 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and WR/DB McFarland are explosive two-way playmakers for the Eagles and will be big assets as they break in a new QB and RB. Sophomore RB DeLucia (188 yards, 1 TD rushing) got a bit of action as a freshman, so he could emerge for DHS. LB Flynn has the speed to cover in space, but plays with the physicality that's needed against the run, while DB Wilturmer (34 tackles, 1INT) returns in the secondary.

DOBIE LONGHORNS

Coach: Danny Fitzmorris. Lettermen R/L: 26/27. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Da'Markus Hodges (5-7, 200, 4.6), WR Marcus Jones (5-8, 170, 4.5), LB Desmond Talib (5-10, 190, 4.7), OL Camron Robertson (5-10, 250), OL Alonzo Chapman (5-10, 265), QB Titus Randle (5-9, 175, 4.5), OL Achilles Rostro (5-8, 275), LB James Fortson (5-9, 185, 4.8), RB/DB Adrian Taylor (5-8, 165, 4.5), RB Ke'lijah Jackson, LB Julius Sanchez, DL Nathan Zavala, DL Cedric Gillespie, DL Dario Rodriguez, OL Luedy Matos, DB Rashad Howard, DB Clayton Washington.

2025 notes: The Longhorns slipped into the playoffs on the final play of the season a year ago and Fitzmorris believes a second year in the system will benefit them. RB Hodge (555 yards, 10 TDs rushing) takes over full time in the Wing-T offense, while Fitzmorris likes the potential of new QB Randle. WR Jones had two kick return touchdowns and will be a big play threat. LB Talib (64 tackles, 3 sacks, 2 INTs) was first-team all-district and is a team captain. RB/DB Taylor (15 tackles) saw time on defense as a freshman and could be a real factor on both sides of the ball. Fitzmorris says the offensive line will be a strength with a lot of experience returning.

MANVEL MAVERICKS

Coach: Kirk Martin. Lettermen R/L: 37/39. Starters returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 6-6 DII area finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Cam Renfro (5-11, 175, 4.5), DB Kameel James (6-2, 175, 4.5), WR Antoine Wilder (6-0, 160, 4.4), OL Paulo Camacho (6-5, 265), RB Kenneth

Malone-Hayes (5-11, 205, 4.6), RB Xaiden Brown (6-0, 200, 4.5), DB Ju'Von Smith (5-10, 170, 4.5), RB Eric Mosley, RB Aycee Johnson, DE Dallas George, OL Drake Jones, WR Carter St. Junious, OL Emile White, DL Amir Bowers, QB Brayden Tuasosopo.

2025 notes: It was a mixed bag for Manvel in 2024 as the Mavericks did earn a playoff win after missing out on the playoffs in 2023, but they battled inconsistency much of the year. There's some exciting young talent from a loaded sophomore group, but there could be some growing pains this year. QB Renfro (1,744 yards, 21 TDs passing; 290 yards, 9 TDs rushing) missed time a year ago with an injury, but if he can stay healthy the Mavs' running game could be top notch. There's plenty of capable backs with Malone-Hayes (409 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and Brown (538 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 14-151, 2 TDs receiving) leading the charge. Junior DB James (31 tackles, 1INT) is a long, athletic player who can play any spot in the secondary.

MEMORIAL MAVERICKS

Coach: Jamie Crocker. Lettermen R/L: 26/25. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: OL Devan Robison (6-5, 315), ATH Logan Johnson (5-11, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Arturo Aguilera (6-0, 195, 4.6), LB Roy Powell (5-10, 185, 4.6), DT Cameron Newell (6-0, 245, 4.9), ATH Landon Johnson (6-3, 185, 4.7), WR/CB Joseph Castillo (5-10, 165, 4.6), CB Kevin Toussaint (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR/S DeShawn Branch (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR/S Jayden Arispe, DE RJ Robinson, WR Delton Branch, WR Alex Flores.

2025 notes: The Mavericks went with youth last year playing a lot of sophomores, so Crocker is hopeful that will pay off in 2025. OL Robison is an FBS prospect and will lead a rebuilt group that must replace four starters. ATH Logan Johnson (1,240 yards, 12 TDs passing; 1,288 yards, 5 TDs rushing) will likely be back at QB where he's started the last two seasons. He is able to play at multiple other spots if needed. ATH Landon Johnson (18-240, 5 TDs receiving) is a three-sport athlete and a weapon on the outside. The defense has some experience back, led by RB/LB Aguilera (88 tackles, 10 TFL) and LB Powell (46 tackles, 5 TFL, 1INT).

PEARLAND OILERS

Coach: BJ Gotte. Lettermen R/L: 21/47. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 9-3 DI area finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: DE Jaylen Stewart (6-2, 230, 4.7), LB Joseph Credit (6-1, 215, 4.5), DL DeMarco Jenkins (6-2, 285), WR Jordan Hernandez (5-9, 145, 4.4), QB Jake Westmoreland (5-10, 170, 4.5), LB Sam Armstrong (5-11, 180, 4.7), OL Colby Rao (6-1, 325), RB Ryan Miller (5-7, 145, 4.5), RB Royce Swan (5-8, 165, 4.6), DL Amari Wilks, DB Ezekiel Alkire, OL Nick Howard, LB Anthony DeLeon, WR Michael Shawver, WR Kaleb Samuels, DB Jonathan Henton.

2025 notes: Pearland has the pieces in place to be a trendy pick for a playoff run as the Oilers welcome back 13 starters and get reinforcements from a 9-1 JV squad. The strength is up front on both sides of the ball, especially on defense. DE Stewart (65 tackles, 13 TFL, 10 sacks) and DL Jenkins (33 tackles, 6 TFL, 2 sacks) return along with speedy LB Credit (78 tackles, 10 TFL, 5 sacks) to give PHS a formidable group on defense. QB Westmoreland (1,661 yards, 22 TDs passing) is back for the offense and will work behind a veteran offensive line. WR Hernandez (63-1,097, 15 TDs receiving) is a dynamic threat on the outside. Gotte says youth at the skill spots, notably in the secondary, are questions going into 2025.

SAM RAYBURN TEXANS

Coach: Sergio Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 40/15. Starters returning O/D: 10/9. 2024: 2-8/0-8 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB H'Rei Jones (5-11, 165, 4.6), OL Darrell Randall (6-5, 310), QB Malachi Rivas (6-0, 200, 4.8), LB Raymond Sabala (5-10, 205, 4.8), S Josiah Vela (6-0, 160, 4.7), RB Javier Estrada (5-8, 210, 4.7), DE Juelz Byrd-Acuna (6-0, 215, 4.9), DE Nathan Slater (6-0, 235), RB Daniel Saucedo (5-6, 170, 4.7), DT Julian Montelongo, RB Ruben Vasquez, OL Cristian Mendez, OL Eduard Aguilar, LB Amis Juarez, CB Luciano Morales, RB Alton Castillo, S Christopher Tapia.

2025 notes: The Texans took their lumps a year ago,

District 22-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Chris Stewart, Alvin Shadow Creek

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Jaylen Stewart, Pearland

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Pearland (3,540)
2. Alvin Shadow Creek (2,603)
3. Manvel (2,594)
4. Pearland Dawson (2,605)
5. Pasadena Dobie (3,825)
6. Pasadena South Houston (2,285)
7. Pasadena Memorial (3,169)
8. Alvin (2,869)
9. Pasadena Sam Rayburn (2,789)

not only switching to the Slot-T offense, but also going with a youth movement. With a second year in the system and 40 lettermen back, expect improvement in 2025. WR/DB Jones is an explosive playmaker who will see time on both sides of the ball, while QB Rivas returns for a second season guiding the offense. OL Randall is just one of several good prospects in the sophomore class. Junior S Vela showed promise a year ago and will be a leader on defense, while the staff is excited about the potential of sophomore LB Sabala. Gonzalez says overall numbers in the program are up, which is an encouraging sign.

SHADOW CREEK SHARKS

Coach: Tyrone Green. Lettermen R/L: 26/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 9-2 DII bi-district finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Chris Stewart (6-1, 170, 4.5), DB Carter Stewart (6-2, 175, 4.5), LB Tommy Baker (6-2, 215, 4.7), LB Jarone Bell (6-1, 185, 4.6), WR Inno Beauchamp (6-1, 185, 4.6), RB Triston Willis (5-10, 190, 4.5), OL Dominick Lee (6-2, 280), DL Deneim Scott (5-11, 265), WR Jaylen Addai (6-0, 165, 4.5), OL Demarcus West, WR Aden Starling, OL Caleb Buford, DL Nathan Harris, DL Arin Warner, DB Brandon Sherrard, DB Cameron Hebert, DB Kevin Jackson.

2025 notes: After rolling to a district title, the Sharks were stunned in the first round of the playoffs. There's no question that loss will be fuel to the fire in 2025. Texas commit WR Stewart (60-922, 15 TDs receiving) is among the top prospects in the country and will be the focal point of the offense along with RB Willis (766 yards, 13 TDs rushing). DB Stewart (42 tackles) played QB as a sophomore and could be a candidate to take over the offense; he's an FBS recruit like his brother Chris. LB Baker (78 tackles, 15 TFL) is the stalwart returning on the defensive side of the ball for the Sharks. Coach Green says his team will need to answer questions at QB and in the trenches to have success in 2025.

SOUTH HOUSTON TROJANS

Coach: Lamont Mayberry. Lettermen R/L: 17/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Xavier Muhammad (6-5, 245, 4.9), QB/S La'Kee Baker (5-10, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Tyren Brewster (5-8, 145, 4.5), ATH Dion Johnson (5-8, 140, 4.5), ATH Makih Cowart (6-0, 225, 4.7), ATH James Henry (5-8, 140, 4.6), RB/LB Jadon Buckner (5-10, 230, 4.8), OL Nick Majano (6-0, 260), WR/DB Jacobly Mayberry (5-8, 140, 4.6).

2025 notes: New coach Mayberry takes over; he was DC under former coach Patrick Longstreet, who became Pasadena ISD athletic director. The Trojans will lean on their exciting young skill talent as they try and get over the hump and into playoff contention in their tough district. Junior TE/DE Muhammad (38 tackles, 5 TFL, 3 sacks) had a big sophomore season and is earning FBS interest. His future is likely on defense, but expect him to be a factor on offense, as well. QB/S Baker (875 yards, 6 TDs passing; 708 yards, 12 TDs rushing) started eight games as a sophomore and is electric with the ball in his hands.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 23-6A Preview

ATASCOCITA EAGLES

Coach: Craig Stump. Lettermen R/L: 25/35. Starters returning O/D: 3/7. 12-2 DI region finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Cardae Mack (5-11, 210, 4.6) RB CJ Toney (5-10, 190, 4.5), LB Rayvion Sauls (6-1, 200, 4.6), S TJ Bolden (6-2, 200, 4.6), QB Isaiah Rasheed (6-1, 175, 4.5), CB Trenton Blaylock (6-2, 170, 4.4). Top juniors: DL Jason Johnson (6-3, 280, 4.9), CB Joshua Banks (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: QB Joshua Davis (5-11, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: S Abimal Angel, DL Andre Jones, OL Dominic Brown, OL Yul Everline, DE David Dotson, WR Brian Manuel, LB Samir Richard, ATH Derrick Tripp.

2025 notes: Atascocita will once again be on the short list of contenders to emerge from the brutal race that is 6A Division I in the Houston area, but Stump's squad does have some holes to fill. RB Mack (1,864 yards, 18 TDs passing; 1,918 yards, 22 TDs rushing) is back for a third season and will likely slide over to his more natural position of RB after spending most of the last two seasons at QB. Talented junior QB Rasheed will take over on offense and has more weapons than just Mack, with RB Toney joining him in the backfield. LB Sauls and S Bolden lead what should be a defense that takes another step forward as seven starters return. Stump says the biggest question mark will be inexperience on the Eagles offensive line.

C.E. KING PANTHERS

Coach: Cory Laxen. Lettermen R/L: 24/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Dionne Sims (5-10, 180, 4.4), DL Dominic Toulon (6-2, 255, 4.7), WR Brayton Lane (6-4, 185, 4.5), WR LeJerrick Clark (5-11, 185, 4.5), DB Enoch Bell (5-10, 180, 4.5), DB Dwight Wiley (5-10, 180, 4.4). Top juniors: RB Antwon Sanders (6-0, 210, 4.5), LB Damian Broussard (5-9, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: DL Oswald Jacquet (6-2, 295).

Other prospects: QB Timothy Potts, OL Rudy Garcia, OL Xavier Goode, DL Kevin Interiano, DL Lavell Strong, OL Joshua Martin, DL O'Marion Smith.

2025 notes: New head coach Cory Laxen was promoted in late December and will look to get the Panthers back to the playoffs after a 5-5 campaign. There's plenty of firepower back for the Panthers, with RB Sims (1,047 yards, 13 TDs rushing), a two-time all-district selection, as the headliner. He has blazing speed and is capable of making a house call at any moment. WRs Clark (29-450, 3 TDs receiving) and Lane (23-516, 4 TDs receiving) are back on the outside. DL Toulon (65 tackles, 21 TFL, 11 sacks) was an all-district pick and moves incredibly well for a player his size. The secondary will be a strength with the return of DB Bell (42 tackles, 2 INTs) and DB Wiley (48 tackles, 2 INTs).

CHANNELVIEW FALCONS

Coach: Averion Hurts. Lettermen R/L: 16/17. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: DE Lederick Keller (6-2, 225, 4.7), OL Jimmy Garner (5-11, 265), DB Bentreall Wright (5-8, 160, 4.6), S Dale Taylor (5-11, 180, 4.5), LB Jon Wiley (5-10, 185, 4.8), WR Davion Vanderbilt (6-1, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: WR Elijah Marshall (6-0, 180, 4.7), WR Patricio Martinez (5-9, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Juan Salinas (6-1, 230).

Other prospects: LB Joe Samaniego, RB Darius Myles, OL Shane Aguilar, QB Roderick Buckler.

2025 notes: The Falcons struggled to just a single victory a year ago, but with a dozen starters back, veteran head coach Averion Hurts says CHS is primed to improve after playing a lot of sophomores in 2024. Junior WRs Vanderbilt (46-530, 1 TD receiving) and Marshall (14-131, 1 TD receiving) will be key for the offense. OL Garner is a three-year starter and anchors an experienced offensive line, while OL Salinas is back after starting nine games as a freshman. The defense only returns five starters, but there's quality there, led by DE Keller (62 tackles, 18 TFL, 4 sacks) and LB Wiley (59 tackles, 4 TFL). The CHS

secondary is led by a pair of senior playmakers in DB Wright (51 tackles) and S Taylor.

GOOSE CREEK MEMORIAL PATRIOTS

Coach: JayMond Cleveland. Lettermen R/L: 31/22. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 0-10/0-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Joshua Babin (5-9, 150, 4.5), DE Robert Rollins (6-2, 240, 4.6), WR Matthew Thomas (6-3, 190, 4.5), OL Luis Amaya (6-2, 300), QB Ricco Richards (5-9, 155, 4.6), OL Nestor Martinez (5-11, 270). Top juniors: ATH Kaden McZeal (5-11, 180, 4.5), LB Mario Jackson (5-10, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Jordyn Vaughn (6-0, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Myles Reimonenq, DB Jorie Mitchell, DL Jasper Hadnot, RB Daymon Allen, DL Korey Washington.

2025 notes: Moving up to Class 6A was going to be a challenge for the Patriots, but when you add in moving into one of the state's best districts, it resulted in a winless season. New head coach JayMond Cleveland will try and get the arrow pointed in the right direction after his hire in early April. The Memorial offense should be improved as eight starters return, led by speedy WRs Babin (28-426, 3 TDs receiving) and Thomas (28-475, 7 TDs receiving). QB Richards (1,246 yards, 9 TDs passing) showed promise as a sophomore and will lead the offense, working behind an offensive line anchored by OLs Amaya and Martinez. DE Rollins (35 tackles, 3 sacks) had a strong sophomore debut and will lead a defense that is young, but is more talented across the board.

HUMBLE WILDCATS

Coach: Robert Murphy. Lettermen R/L: 22/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 5-5/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Marcus Bourda Jr. (6-1, 180), ATH Vincent Joseph (6-2, 190), WR Jayden Heaton (6-1, 185), DB Jalen Wilridge (5-11, 165), WR Jehran Wilmore (5-9, 155), DL Dallen Grant (6-2, 215). Top juniors: DB Dunnyias Owens (5-10, 150), DB Ryan Lacour (5-9, 160). Top sophomore: ATH Darrow Williams (5-9, 150).

Other prospects: DL Andrew Winn, OL Kamarion McGee, DL Folau Finau, Jr., ATH Aedyn Busby, RB Tavarion Gaines, OL Kenyon McGowen, DB Jeffery Tillotson, LB Kyran Washington-Bowens.

2025 notes: Murphy believes his team is on the brink of playoff contention, but they'll have to get over the hump in a brutally tough district where all four playoff teams went at least four rounds deep in 2024. WR/DB Bourda (13-285, 3 TDs receiving; 66 tackles, 2 INTs) is a four-year starter that Murphy says is an impact player in all three phases of the game. ATH Joseph moved in from New Caney and could add to the Wildcats' talented skill group. DL Grant (35 tackles, 3 sacks) will return to lead the defense, which brings back all four starters in the secondary. The biggest key for Humble will be development on the offensive line where the Wildcats will have some inexperience.

KINGWOOD MUSTANGS

Coach: Cale Melton. Lettermen R/L: 26/39. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 9-5 DII region finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Kennedy Brown (6-5, 280), RB/LB Cade Haug (6-2, 220, 4.5), OL Hudson Mock (6-3, 265, 4.9), QB Landon Hinson (6-2, 190, 4.9), S Sam Peterson (5-10, 170, 4.6), TE Trysten Laughlin (6-5, 225, 4.8). Top juniors: DE Gideon Colby (6-3, 225, 4.7), WR Ricky Shorts (6-2, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Thomas Birney (6-2, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Mustangs were the surprise team in the Houston area a year ago, advancing all the way to a regional final. If some holes on offense get filled, KHS will again be a tough out. Junior RB/LB Haug (152 tackles, 10 TFL; 102 yards, 2 TDs rushing) is the total package at LB and anchors Kingwood's relay teams. Junior QB Hinson (935 yards, 14 TDs passing) impressed during district play and will put up good numbers working behind an OL led by Brown and Mock. S Peterson (36 tackles, 7 INTs) is a ball-hawk in the secondary and was second in 23-6A interceptions. Melton says

District 23-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Cardae Mack, Atascocita

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Amontre Harris, Humble Summer Creek

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Galena Park North Shore (4,535.5)
2. Humble Summer Creek (3,819)
3. Humble Atascocita (3,826.5)
4. Humble Kingwood (2,911.5)
5. Sheldon C.E. King (3,787)
6. Humble (2,957)
7. Channelview (2,904)
8. Baytown Goose Creek Memorial (2,332)

replacing three starting offensive linemen and finding depth at linebacker will be big keys going into 2025.

NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS

Coach: Willie Gaston. Lettermen R/L: 45/25. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 14-1 DI state semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Kaleb Maryland (5-11, 185), DB Chase Calicut (6-3, 180), LB Dezmund Christian (5-11, 185), RB Hezekiah Johnson (5-9, 180). Top juniors: WR Aubrey Johnson (6-0, 175), DL Kobe Charles (6-0, 220). Top sophomore: RB Jemarkeus Houston (5-8, 170).

Other prospects: OL Isaac Aranda, WR Dorian Barnes, OL Jaylen Fields, DL Xavier Waters, OL Chase Brown, DB Tony Guillory, LB Da'Sean Royal.

2025 notes: The Mustangs could be in a transition year as North Shore graduated a senior class that featured nine Division I signees and a QB who was a four-year starter. In at QB steps talented senior Maryland (510 yards, 3 TDs passing; 238 yards, 4 TDs rushing), who has seen extensive action the past two seasons and impressed. The offensive line will be solid, but there will be a lot of new faces at the skill spots. DB Calicut is the latest of a long line of elite defensive backs from North Shore, while LB Christian's speed makes him a unique player that can play in space or support the run. Gaston believes despite the losses, the overall experience and tradition at North Shore will keep the Mustangs in the discussion of 6A title contenders.

SUMMER CREEK BULLDOGS

Coach: Kenny Harrison. Lettermen R/L: 27/31. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 12-3 DII state semifinalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: DE Amontre Harris (6-4, 220, 4.7), WR Larry Brown (5-10, 165, 4.4), WR Holden Miller (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL Jonathan Bermudez (6-3, 275), LB Tyson Joiner (5-10, 210, 4.8), WR Benny Easter (6-0, 190, 4.5). Top juniors: RB Braylin Causey (6-0, 195, 4.6), DB Caleb White (5-8, 150, 4.6). Top sophomore: ATH Ke'Shawn Singleton (5-7, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR Jamica Jones, DB Marrel Davis, OL Keyshawn Berry-Dilworth, LB Joseph Carroll, RB Keshawn Jackson, DT Brinley Tita, TE Jonathan Nowling, DB Anthony Thomas.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs fell just short of a second straight title game appearance a year ago, but the pieces are again in place to make a deep run. Summer Creek is absolutely loaded with skill talent with WRs Brown (526 yards, 7 TDs receiving), Miller (51-740, 10 TDs receiving), Easter (45-978, 12 TDs receiving) and Jones (50-662, 7 TDs receiving) along with RBs Causey (476 yards, 11 TDs rushing) and Jackson (548 yards, 7 TDs rushing). The big question will be who wins the QB job heading into fall camp? Defensively, SCHS has outstanding pieces in place with DE Harris (59 tackles, 16 TFL, 10 sacks) and LB Joiner (101 tackles, 10 TFL, 1 sack, 1 INT). Harrison says youth in the secondary is the question mark for the defense.

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 24-6A Preview

BRAZOSWOOD BUCCANEERS

Coach: Eric Luster. Lettermen R/L: 35/23. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Braylon Burby (6-1, 180, 4.6), OL Colby Smith (6-4, 255), WR Gayland Strauther (5-10, 160, 4.5), S Legend Luster (5-11, 175, 4.6), QB Noah Phillips (6-1, 175, 4.6), OL Layton Kopynski (6-7, 290). Top juniors: RB/DB Kieran Lunsford (5-11, 170, 4.5), OL/DL Ralphie Garcia (6-3, 255). Top sophomore: WR/DB Kameron Davis (5-8, 145, 4.6).

Other prospects: DE Parker Calhoun, LB Michael Sifuentes, DB Jaxson Zuniga, DB Ethan Henry, WR/DB Nick Darthard, RB Julian Diaz, OL Nathan Theriot, WR/DB Rylan Earp.

2025 notes: Luster says the Bucs should be much-improved in his second season in charge. The offense should be tough to slow down with eight starters back. QB Phillips (1,705 yards, 18 TDs passing) is one of those and he has explosive weapons on the outside with WRs Burby (18-248, 4 TDs receiving) and Strauther (24-463, 4 TDs receiving). Luster says Strauther will also be utilized in the return game. S Luster (45 tackles) missed four games last year, and getting him back will be key with his great athleticism and a high football IQ. Junior OL/DL Garcia impressed as a sophomore with four sacks a year ago. Luster says the biggest concerns are replacing an outstanding RB and depth along the defensive line.

CLEAR BROOK WOLVERINES

Coach: Patrick Sanders. Lettermen R/L: 14/19. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jayden Dansby (5-9, 190, 4.7), WR/FS JaDarrell Brooks, OL Kenneth Christian (6-0, 330), LB Montez Hadnot (5-9, 200), RB Elijah Rubins (5-8, 170, 4.7). Top junior: WR/FS Cullen Landry (5-8, 160).

2025 notes: Clear Brook struggled through the 2024 season winning just one game and failing to pick up a district victory. If there is improvement on the horizon, Sanders' squad will need to do it with a lot of new faces. ATH Dansby (866 yards, 8 TDs passing; 825 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is a versatile athlete who may be in position to take over at QB full-time, but he's a good enough athlete to play a different position. WR/FS Brooks (18-257, 1 TD receiving) will be a force on both sides of the ball, while LB Hadnot is a quick linebacker that covers a ton of ground. The biggest concern for Sanders will be improving overall program numbers, which will subsequently address the concerns regarding depth.

CLEAR CREEK WILDCATS

Coach: Dwayne Lane. Lettermen R/L: 17/32. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DT Ke'shawn Jones (5-10, 285), OL Wyatt Patterson (6-0, 265), ATH Hayden Ford (5-9, 150, 4.8), QB Carlos Cantu (6-1, 180, 4.7), FS Brayden Ladd (6-2, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: RB J'shon Parks (5-11, 190, 4.7), RB Luke Rose (5-7, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: S Rafe Trevino (5-8, 145, 4.8).

2025 notes: After missing out on the playoffs a year ago, the Wildcats will look to bounce back in 2025. DT Jones is a three-year starter and first-team all-district selection. He'll be the anchor in the middle of the defense. FS Ladd started 10 games as a sophomore and picked off two passes, so look for a leap this year from him. ATH Ford (280 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 157 yards, 2 TDs passing) will be a Swiss Army Knife, while QB Cantu (577 yards, 3 TDs passing; 167 yards, 1 TD rushing) returns after starting eight games as a junior. "We have some experience back, but we need the young guys to build on their subvarsity success; everything this year will depend on how the youngsters progress," said Lane.

CLEAR FALLS KNIGHTS

Coach: Zach Head. Lettermen R/L: 27/45. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Preston Pitts (6-4, 210, 4.6), WR Zachary Greer (5-11, 170, 4.5), QB Kyden Barker (6-2, 185, 4.9), LB Hunter Lehman (6-2, 210, 4.8), RB Cameron Kern (6-2, 205, 4.8), LB Joel Garza (5-11, 185, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Tristan Gaviria (5-11, 215, 4.9), DB Mario Cresta (6-0, 185, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB Haden LaFrenz (6-0, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Brooks Ponshock, OL Harrison Moses, ATH Kade Holifield, DL Liam Gurka, DL John Hurst, DL Landon Baker, DL Letrell Perkins, DE Brayden Rupert.

2025 notes: Head says the Knights' front seven will be key as they look to make the playoffs for the seventh straight season. LB Pitts (116 tackles, 27 TFL, 9 sacks, 1 INT) is a versatile and rangy linebacker who can do it all. LB Lehman (126 tackles, 12 TFL, 2 sacks) also returns, giving the Knights one of the top LB duos in Greater Houston. Offensively, there are concerns about youth on the offensive line, but Clear Falls should be dynamic at the skill spots with WR Greer (49-803, 7 TDs receiving) back along with RB Kern (270 yards, 4 TDs rushing), who returns after playing just three games. QB Barker tossed 32 touchdown passes last year at Galveston Ball and will be a big impact transfer.

CLEAR LAKE FALCONS

Coach: Jason Ward. Lettermen R/L: 23/30. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR A'Zayveon Brantley (5-10, 165, 4.6), DL Owen Pullig (5-10, 240), DB Darrian Promise (5-9, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Nicholas Cox, WR/DB Copper Jackson, LB Omar Mastouri.

2025 notes: New coach Ward takes over the Falcons; he was most recently Clear Falls' offensive coordinator. He inherits a team hungry to claw back into the playoff chase, and has plenty of experience to do just that. The receiving corps could be among the best in 24-6A with the return of WR Brantley (29-480, 7 TDs receiving). There's good experience back on the offensive line but there are questions at QB and RB that need to be answered. The secondary should be strong with playmakers like DB Promise and DB Jackson holding down the back end. This is a team that could crash the party.

CLEAR SPRINGS CHARGERS

Coach: Anthony Renfro. Lettermen R/L: 22/23. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 8-3 DII bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Sean Carter (6-2, 185, 4.5), OL Tristan Jefferson (6-3, 295), DB Logan Maxcey (5-11, 175, 4.6), LB Akin Wells (5-9, 185, 4.6), DE Josh Dickey (6-2, 190, 4.6), WR Freddie Fincher (6-2, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: DL Brandon Sansalone (6-0, 250), K Clayton Smith (5-11, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Kerry Siverand, TE Gavin Bickham, DE Cash Gansen, RB/DB Jeremiah Davis, RB Daran Bolden.

2025 notes: The Chargers have been the most consistent team in Clear Creek ISD over the past few years, but with just three starters back on both sides of the ball, Renfro's squad has plenty of questions heading into 2025. WR Carter (26-425, 3 TDs receiving) is an explosive threat who can find the end zone any time he has the ball in his hands, while WR Fincher (15-182, 1 TD receiving) is a three-year starter and could be a bigger factor in the offense. The defense has a couple of playmakers back in LB Wells (120 tackles, 19 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT) and DB Maxcey (187 tackles, 17 TFL), who was among the state's leaders in tackles a year ago. Renfro says inexperience at QB and the offensive line are question marks heading into the fall.

District 24-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Malachi Gamble, Dickinson

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Preston Pitts, Clear Falls

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Dickinson (3,859)
2. Clear Springs (2,800)
3. Deer Park (4,066)
4. Clear Falls (2,653)
5. Clear Lake (2,648)
6. Clear Creek (2,584)
7. Clute Brazoswood (2,491)
8. Clear Brook (2,563)

DEER PARK DEER

Coach: Austin Flynn. Lettermen R/L: 20/53. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-3 DI bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Manny Bustamante (6-3, 280), DT Brody Bailey (6-3, 265), WR Braelyn Aston-Jackson (5-8, 170), OL Israel Lozano (6-0, 285), DE Tommy Johnson (6-2, 215), DB Kyler Ferris (5-11, 185). Top juniors: DE Michael Benavides (6-2, 195), LB Derek Woytek (6-0, 210). Top sophomore: TE Trace Calhoun (6-0, 220).

Other prospects: RB Christian Gamez, WR Aandon Schroeder, RB Trace Yates, LB Lex Sablatura, WR John Arthur-French, Jr., WR Kaidon Gladney, DT Charles Houston, DT Eddie Lopez.

2025 notes: Deer Park will field a younger group in 2025 after the graduation of 53 seniors, but Flynn says the staff is excited about this team's upside — "We are young, but talented." The strength for this year's DPHS squad will be up front with OL Bustamante and OL Lozano being the anchors on the offensive line. WR Aston-Jackson leads a talented core of pass catchers. Junior LB Woytek (81 tackles) could be in line for a big season after a strong sophomore debut, while DT Bailey is the anchor in the middle of the defense. Junior DE Benavides is an athletic edge rusher who could also emerge. A lack of experience at QB, RB and in the secondary will be the biggest questions heading into fall camp.

DICKINSON GATORS

Coach: John Snelson. Lettermen R/L: 28/35. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Malachi Gamble (5-9, 180, 4.5), QB Lorenzo Aguirre (5-10, 175, 4.9), DL Chase Lewis (6-2, 270, 4.8), WR Kaileb Peterson (6-2, 170, 4.5), RB Jamal Mason (5-9, 200, 4.7), TE Braden Glover (6-2, 200, 4.8). Top juniors: WR Ja'marion Payne (5-10, 170, 4.6), RB Tavin Gomez (5-11, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: CB Royce Bimage (6-0, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: S Marzellus Hunter, OL/DL Adolfo Cruz, OL Jonathan Martinez, S Timothy Ricks, DE Jaycyn Mason, S Ayden Edison, DL Braeylon Bradley, WR Jayse Washington.

2025 notes: The Gators were unable to advance out of the first round of the playoffs a year ago, but don't be surprised if Snelson's squad is still among the contenders in the Houston area. There's plenty of depth in the backfield with RBs Gamble (1,529 yards, 23 TDs rushing) and Mason (236 yards, 2 TDs rushing), who is back after missing the last seven games of the year. Junior QB Aguirre (1,072 yards, 11 TDs passing; 5 TDs rushing) split time a year ago and will lead the offense full-time in 2025. DL Lewis (52 tackles, 9 TFL) was a first-team all-district pick and leads the defense. Sophomore CB Bimage has the talent to be the latest in a long line of elite defensive backs from Dickinson.

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 25-6A Preview

CEDAR RIDGE RAIDERS

Coach: Bryan Vardeman. Lettermen R/L: 13/45. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Noah Devonish (5-9, 165, 4.4), DL Benjamin Sears (6-2, 240, 4.9), LB Janen Hamilton (6-5, 195, 4.8), OL Kameron Asbra (6-4, 280, 5.5), LB Powers Wallis (5-10, 185, 4.6), WR Jake McGill (6-0, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Jeremiah Passmore (6-3, 270, 5.2), RB Devin Patterson (6-0, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: ATH Trent Bell (6-0, 175, 4.6).

Players to watch: OL Arreon Gadison, ATH Christian Hall, OL Marco Cosimeno, QB Dylan Snoga, K Cooper Tougas, OL Issac Elliot, QB Hunter Sellers, DL Alexander Nelson.

2025 notes: The Raiders plucked new coach Vardeman from Flower Mound to change the program's recent fortunes, and his defense-first mindset may be exactly what's needed for a team that allowed 35 points per game last season. DL Sears (50 tackles, 4 sacks) and LBs Hamilton (44 tackles) and Wallis (50 tackles) are pieces to build around. ATH Bell contributes in all three phases and won't spend much time on the sidelines. Offensively, RB Devonish (855 yards rushing) leads the way, thanks in large part to the work done by OLs Asbra, Gadison, Cosimeno and Elliot. RB Patterson is a strong receiver out of the backfield. WR McGill (250 yards receiving, 2 TDs) will be a primary target for QBs Snoga, Sellers.

HUTTO HIPPOS

Coach: Eli Reinhart. Lettermen R/L: 25/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Keilan Chavies, WR/DB Jaiden Fields, OL Jayden Mack, LB Briggs Bujnoch, LB Brayden Daniel, QB Kaden Stefek. Top juniors: DB Michael Blaylark, DL Sammy Johnson. Top sophomore: WR Michael Broom.

Other prospect: DL Malcolm Wheeler.

2025 notes: Reinhart, fresh off coordinating North Crowley's championship offense, takes over a Hippos squad that brings back plenty of offensive firepower. RB Chavies (789 yards, 7 TDs rushing) figures to lead the rushing attack. Dual-threat QB Stefek (2,061 yards, 27 TDs passing; 338 yards, 4 TDs rushing) returns, as does top WR/DB Fields (832 yards, 10 TDs receiving). OL Mack is a mainstay up front. Offense has always been Hutto's calling card, but the defense should take a big step forward with a handful of returning starters. DLs Wheeler and Johnson bring experience to the interior line. LBs Daniel, Bujnoch make plays from sideline to sideline. DB Blaylark anchors the secondary. A strong sophomore class should get valuable experience, setting the stage for future success.

MANOR MUSTANGS

Coach: James Keller. Lettermen R/L: 23/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: DB Israel Lawrence (5-10, 180, 4.6), RB Xavier Hill (5-8, 220, 4.9), QB Cam Huff (5-9, 180, 4.8), QB/WR Seleste Mwamba (6-1, 190, 4.8), DB Paul Adams (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL James Romero (6-1, 225). Top juniors: RB/LB Jourden Walker (5-7, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB Andre Terry (5-9, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Cesar Sanchez, DE Princeton Umanmielen, OL Adrian Rodriguez.

2025 notes: The usually run-first Mustangs will once again lean on their running game to find success in 2025. Keller's squad returns three key members in the trenches with OLs Romero, Sanchez and Rodriguez. They'll lean on defenses to open lanes for RB Hill (504 yards rushing, 135 yards receiving), QBs Huff (1,734 yards, 13 TDs passing) and Mwamba, who will also work at receiver. RB/LB Walker and RB Terry will also be called upon to run the ball. The strength of the young defense, at least early on, may lie in the secondary where DBs Lawrence (51 tackles) and Adams return. DE Umanmielen looks to become the third family member to wreak havoc on opposing offenses. Keller expects plenty of sophomores to start.

MCNEIL MAVERICKS

Coach: Scott Hermes. Lettermen R/L: 17/32. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/RB Jarell Gary (6-0, 195, 4.6), QB Jadon Sultz (6-1, 200, 4.6), WR/DB Aden Taylor (5-

10, 178, 4.5), WR Zach Christie (6-2, 197, 4.6). Top junior: LB Tyson Cox (5-10, 183, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Mike Jones, DL Jacorian Hubbard, LB Marshall Holland.

2025 notes: An experienced nucleus returns to make what it hopes is another run at dethroning the perennial district (and now defending state) champs at Vandegrift. QB Sultz (1,553 yards, 17 TDs passing) returns for his third year running the Mavericks' offense. He'll lean on WR/RB Gary (266 yards rushing, 573 yards receiving, 10 total TDs), WR Christie (607 yards receiving) and WR/DB Taylor (430 yards receiving; 41 tackles) to keep the chains moving and defenses on their heels. LBs Holland (81 tackles, 3 sacks), Jones (66 tackles) and Cox (22 tackles) lead the defense along with DL Hubbard (43 tackles). Hermes knows his staff must develop depth up front early if the Mavericks want to break from the gates quickly in a tough district.

ROUND ROCK DRAGONS

Coach: Cody Moore. Lettermen R/L: 25/56. Starters Returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 8-3 DI bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Dylan Jaeger (6-1, 205, 4.5), QB Jack Appl (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL Mark Moreno (6-5, 285, 5.3), WR Daniel Berry (6-2, 195, 4.6), DL Luke Rodriguez (5-10, 230, 4.9), DL Max Williams (6-0, 220, 4.7). Top juniors: TE Jonah Mussey (6-3, 215, 4.9), DL Evan Anders (6-1, 250, 5.1).

Other prospects: WR Carson Griffin, TE Elijah Ellis, DB Jace Kivett, DB Colton Shane, RB Brady Cochran, DL Shia Stickler, DL Zaiheed Lyons, OL Carter Shields.

2025 notes: A program known for its punishing defensive play, Moore will lean on nine new starters to keep the momentum going. Fortunately, DLs Rodriguez (3 sacks), Williams (20 tackles, 3 sacks) and Anders return to anchor the line. DBs Kivett and Shane are experienced as well, but plenty of newcomers will be called upon. The Dragons are much more settled offensively with QB Appl (1,439 yards, 23 total TDs passing) and WRs Jaeger (456 yards, 2 TDs as a sophomore) and Berry (3 TDs). OLs Moreno and Shields anchor an offensive line that will look to open holes for RB Cochran, who will step into an expanded role for what needs to be a balanced offense. TEs Mussey and Ellis will also be factors.

STONY POINT TIGERS

Coach: Craig Chessher. Lettermen R/L: 24/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Kinnick Kalbus (6-1, 201), WR Trystin Rimes (6-3, 176), LB Joaquin Mendez (5-10, 206), DL TJ Daniel (6-1, 273), OL Terrance Lackey (6-2, 285), QB Mason Troyer (5-9, 150), RB Marcus Milligan (5-8, 165), OL Javate Yerger, DL Xavier Bellow, DB Brock Sumpter, DB Lucas Garcia, DB Joaquin Pena, DL Elijah Ramos, ATH Oliver James, TE Alex Freeman.

2025 Notes: If anyone has a finger on the pulse of a program, it's Chessher, one of the deans of the Austin area, who begins his 22nd season guiding the Tigers. Things won't be easy in a district that welcomes back a state champ, but he figures his team can be in the playoff hunt. QBs Kalbus and Troyer (2,142 yards passing, 23 TDs combined) will lead the offense. RB Milligan looks to make a varsity splash, and WR Rimes (612 yards, 6 TDs receiving) will be a primary target. LB Mendez and DL Daniel are key defensive cogs. DLs Bellow and Ramos also need to play big white young linebackers grow into their roles. The secondary, with DBs Sumter, Garcia and Pena, is a strength.

VANDEGRIFT VIPERS

Coach: Drew Sanders. Lettermen R/L: 30/49. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 15-1 DII state champion/8-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Miles Teodecki (6-2, 215, 4.7), WR Brock Chilton (5-10, 170, 4.5), LB CJ Mooring (6-2, 225, 4.7), OL Parker Cecil (6-3, 275, 4.9), LB Parker Davis (5-10, 195, 4.8), DE Hugo De La Vara Vazquez (6-2, 240, 4.8), WR Gavin Koester (5-11, 175, 4.4), DB Griffin Gorrebeeck (6-0, 205, 4.7), RB Preston James III (5-10, 180, 4.6), OL Carter Mannon, OL Chase Springer, RB Justin Moore, WR Thomas Buechler, DB Tobias Gray, DE Jake Venuto, K/P Wiley Olson, OL Will Wood.

2025 notes: The defending state champions bring

District 25-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Miles Teodecki, Austin Vandegrift

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB CJ Mooring, Austin Vandegrift

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Austin Vandegrift (2,533.5)
2. Round Rock (3,882)
3. Hutto (2,929.5)
4. Round Rock McNeil (2,631)
5. Cedar Park Vista Ridge (2,668.5)
6. Round Rock Cedar Ridge (2,898)
7. Round Rock Stony Point (2,769)
8. Round Rock Westwood (2,834)
9. Manor (2,570)

back the most explosive pieces of what became the second-most prolific offense in school history. QB Teodecki (3,256 yards, 48 TDs passing) is the straw that stirs the Vipers' offense, and big play WRs Chilton (909 yards, 12 TDs receiving) and Koester (455 yards, 7 TDs receiving) are back to torment opposing secondaries. OLs Springer, Mannon and Cecil anchor an impenetrable line. He likes offense, but Sanders' calling card remains defense, and the Vipers will reload behind LBs Mooring (75 tackles, 4 INTs) and Davis (84 tackles, 6 sacks) and DL De La Vara Vazquez (73 tackles, 8 sacks). DB Gorrebeeck saw most of his playing time in 2024 on offense but figures to anchor the secondary this season.

VISTA RIDGE RANGERS

Coach: Chad Scott. Lettermen R/L: 32/38. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: DB/LB Amare Jordan (6-2, 205, 4.4), QB Kaden Arnot (6-2, 185, 4.6), TE Gavin Brooks (6-5, 205, 4.6), WR Kieran Paegle, DE Nate Cochren, WR Ben Reed, DB Cavin Jupe, OL Bennett Eivens, OL Ethan Shenk, WR Deshaun Castillo.

2025 notes: The Rangers have become playoff mainstays of late, and if a third straight trip is in the works, an experienced senior class mixed with talented juniors will lead the way. The defense looks to return to its 2023 form, led by DB/LB Jordan, DB Jupe and DL Cochren. The offense, which topped 30 points six times, should take a step forward as a number of key players earned valuable experience while finding success as sophomores a year ago, including QB Arnot (1,880 yards, 19 TDs passing), WRs Reed (335 yards, 3 TDs receiving), Castillo (327 yards, 4 TDs receiving) and Paegle (2 TDs) and TE Brooks. They'll benefit from playing behind a line that welcomes back 6-5 twin towers Eivens and Shenk.

WESTWOOD WARRIORS

Coach: Derek Ward. Lettermen R/L: 32/20. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Drew Norrell (6-0, 175, 4.6), DL Jacob Brown (6-1, 265), QB Cooper Waits (6-0, 175), DB Josh Hanson (6-0, 185), LB Cam Greene (5-10, 190), OL Blaine Mitchell (6-2, 240), LB Canon Olofson (5-11, 170), DB/WR Ryan Edson (5-11, 175), QB Alex Smith (5-11, 165), DB Jack Kelley, WR Weston Franz, WR Maps Mehis, OL Shane Holder, OL Robert Main, OL/TE Travis Holla, DL Brady Dougherty.

2025 notes: The site of Ward's face on the Warriors sideline might take some getting used to after Anthony Wood's 20-year tenure, but there are plenty of familiar faces to help him feel at home. A large senior class brings a plethora of experience – and expectations – into 2025. QB Waits (1,344 yards, 10 TDs passing) welcomes back WR Norrell (1,007 yards, 6 TDs receiving), and young QB Smith may find some snaps as well. WRs Edson (back after missing most of 2024) and Franz (181 yards receiving) also return. OLs Mitchell, Holder and Main anchor an experienced line. DL Brown leads a defense that also returns LB Greene (68 tackles), LB Olofson (51 tackles), DB Hanson (50 tackles, 3 INTs) and DB Kelley (54 tackles).

DC
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TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 26-6A Preview

AKINS EAGLES

Coach: Joey Saxe. Lettermen R/L: 32/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 3-7/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Dylan Cagle (5-7, 200, 4.6), QB Chris Gonzales (6-2, 185, 4.9), DL Chris Herard (6-0, 232, 5.1), DB/WR Andrew Copeland (5-7, 160, 4.7), DB/WR Pablo Espinoza (5-7, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: DL Jackson Strobel (6-2, 200, 5.0), DB Nico Lutz-Carrillo (6-0, 170, 4.8), DL Jayden Morales, TE JoJo Gonzalez, WR/DB Jayden Tovar.

2025 notes: With an experienced nucleus returning, the Eagles hope to challenge for their first playoff appearance since 2017. Much of the returning experience can be found on defense, including the entire defensive line, led by Herard (all-district in 2024), Strobel and Morales. DB Lutz-Carrillo returns as the team's top cover corner, and DB/WRs Copeland (26 tackles) and Espinoza (19 tackles; 248 yards rushing) will be factors on both sides of the ball. Offensively, Saxe's team will rely on the 1-2 punch of RB Cagle (806 rushing yards in just 4 games) and QB Gonzales, who turned in solid play as a junior and now looks to make the next step. TE Gonzalez will be a primary receiver and a key factor up front.

AUSTIN HIGH MAROONS

Coach: Jason Cecil. Lettermen R/L: 21/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Whit Davenport (6-1, 185), LB Ethan Khale (5-9, 190), LB John Burns (5-10, 185), WR Logan Davis (5-10, 165), DL Michael Friday (6-0, 245), RB Reid Childers (5-10, 185). Top juniors: QB Alijah Jablon (5-10, 165), WR/DB Enzo Hoopman (5-11, 150). Top sophomore: RB Adam Reyes (5-10, 180).

2025 notes: The 2024 Maroons changed the 6A playoff picture significantly by upsetting Bowie to qualify for the DII playoffs, sending Westlake to DI and essentially opening the door for Vandegriff's DII title run. Sadly, new coach Cecil can't rely on the bulk of those playmakers in 2025, though the cupboard isn't completely bare. QB Davenport and WR Davis saw valuable playing time, and RB Childers (445 yards, 8 TDs rushing) showed a nose for the end zone. Defensively, the Maroons welcome back LBs Khale and Burns (78 tackles). DL Friday (4 sacks) anchors an opportunistic defensive line that was stout against the run, and WR/DB Hoopman will be called upon to both catch passes and defend them.

BOWIE BULLDOGS

Coach: Jeff Ables. Lettermen R/L: 34/32. Starters Returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-4/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Mason East (6-0, 230), DL Jackson Lang (6-3, 255), WR Rowen Wells (6-2, 185), RB Rhys Moreno (5-10, 195), OL Tyler Glowacz (6-3, 250), DL Marrell Hinton (6-2, 230). Top juniors: DB Trammell Banks (5-11, 165), DL Cade Venable (5-11, 250). Top sophomore: LB Kai Loo.

Other prospects: WR Evan Dranguet, OL/DL Angel Moreno, WR Hunter Willingham, DB Taylor Gibbs, OL Tyler Merkel, WR Luke Nelson, WR Keiron Campbell, WR Trevor Watts, TE/DE Carson Ledford, DB Fabian Limuel.

2025 notes: A late-season stumble cost the Bulldogs a fourth straight playoff spot, and veteran coach Ables' team spent the offseason battling that bitter taste. For 2025 to end with a playoff return, Bowie will lean on the fundamental principle of running the ball and stopping the run. LB East (92 tackles) and DLs Lang (75 tackles, 14 sacks) and Hinton headline the front six. DL Venable also returns to add size up front after starting as a sophomore. They'll need to stand tall, especially early, as the Bulldogs rebuild in the secondary around DB Banks. WR Wells (676 yards, 9 TDs receiving) and RB Moreno are the most experienced offensive returnees, along with OL Glowacz. WR Dranguet saw plenty of action, as well.

DEL VALLE CARDINALS

Coach: Colin Williams. Lettermen R/L: 20/40. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Alex Marcantoni (6-0, 215), DB David Vindou (6-1, 165), WR/DB Derick Leblanc (5-11, 175), DB Jacob Sotelo (5-9, 165), WR Kaden Nunez (5-9, 160), DB Carmelo Jones (5-9, 165), DL Julio Ramirez (6-2, 200), DL Axel Prado (6-1, 190), ATH First Green (5-9, 170), WR/DB Syree Baltimore, WR/DB Isaiah Haws, WR/DB Semaj Gordon.

2025 notes: First-year coach Williams hopes he can mold the perennially talented Cardinals into a playoff contender. QB Marcantoni (747 yards passing, 7 TDs) will get the ball to playmakers, including WR/DB Leblanc, WR Nunez, ATH Green and speedy WR/DBs Baltimore, Haws and Gordon, who can all turn a yard of space into something explosive. Playmakers abound in the secondary, led by DB Vindou, who could be a top cover corner, and a pair of hard-hitting safeties in DBs Sotelo and Jones. The Cardinals need to develop depth in the trenches. DLs Prado and Ramirez have promising futures, but Williams is looking for more players who can step in and make enough plays to give the talented secondary a chance to produce turnovers.

Where Legends Begin

District 26-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Rees Wise, Austin Westlake

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Carter Buck, Lake Travis

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Austin Westlake (2,813)
2. Lake Travis (3,774)
3. Dripping Springs (2,484)
4. Austin Bowie (2,904)
5. Austin High (2,296.5)
6. Austin Del Valle (3,755)
7. Austin Akins (2,568)

DRIPPING SPRINGS TIGERS

Coach: Galen Zimmerman. Lettermen R/L: 42/33. Starters Returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Cooper Reid (6-5, 195, 4.5), WR Merrik Bloomgren (6-4, 195, 4.6), OL Hudson Whitenight (6-4, 285, 5.0), LB Dylan Brasher (6-2, 185, 4.6), DB Malachi Igharo (6-3, 175, 4.5), LB Kyle Daniel (5-11, 200, 4.6), DL Major Bettridge (5-11, 260, 4.8), OL Holden Yeldell (6-1, 250, 5.0), RB Frank Acetta (5-10, 170, 4.6), QB Mateo Perez, LB Miles Kennedy, OL John Ault, DL Jackson Saafir, LB Colton Hanson, RB Jaceton Gotta.

2025 notes: In a district with Westlake and Lake Travis, solid quarterback play is a must. If QB Perez (272 yards passing, 4 TDs) can get comfortable quickly, he'll have an explosive – not to mention tall – group of receivers to test opposing defenses. WR Reid (1,006 receiving yards, 16 TDs) and WR Bloomgren (417 yards receiving, 7 TDs) both stand at least 6-foot-4. RB Gotta (355 yards rushing, 2 TDs) anchors the rushing attack. Developing depth around OLs Whitenight and Ault will be essential. LBs Daniel (50 tackles), Kennedy (44 tackles) and Hanson, DL Saafir and DB Igharo (56 tackles, 3 INTs) are key returnees for a defense that welcomes back DL Bettridge after an injury cost him most of 2024.

LAKE TRAVIS CAVALIERS

Coach: Hank Carter. Lettermen R/L: 25/48. Starters Returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 12-2 DI region finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Carter Buck (6-6, 245), DL Ben Duncum (6-6, 250), RB Vann Hopping (5-10, 205, 4.5), WR Patrick Colby (6-2, 185, 4.6), LB Braeden Lott (6-1, 210, 4.6), OL Jackson Koepfel (6-3, 265). Top juniors: DB Carson Currie (6-2, 185), WR Westin Smith (5-10, 165). Top sophomore: WR Gray Garrick (6-1, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Logan Kendall, DB Ben Soules, OL Victor Cruz, DB M. Braylen Griffin, DB/ATH Cooper Webb, WR Lark Sidle.

2025 notes: Offense may draw them in, but Lake Travis fans have seen some pretty good defense over the years. Last year's team allowed 20 points just 5 times, and this year's unit might be better. DLs Buck (80 tackles, 7 sacks) and Duncum (65 tackles, 4 sacks) are towering disruptive presences up front. LB Lott looks to make his impact felt in the middle of the defense in front of DBs Webb (41 tackles), Currie (26 tackles), Griffin (3 INTs) and Soules (38 tackles, 2 TDs). While a QB must emerge from preseason competition, Carter's offense remains formidable. OLs Koepfel and Cruz return, as do RB Hopping (1,554 yards, 29 TDs rushing) and WRs Colby (613 yards receiving), Sidle (536 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and Smith.

WESTLAKE CHAPARRALS

Coach: Tony Salazar. Lettermen R/L: 25/60. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 14-2 6A DI state finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Rees Wise (6-2, 210), OL William Hesse (6-4, 275), DL Maddox Flynt (6-3, 270), DB Thompson Bennett (6-3, 195). Top juniors: CB Wylie Nichols (6-4, 190), WR Braden Riddell (6-0, 185). Top sophomore: RB Chase Brodhead (5-11, 170).

Other prospects: WR Lawson Grimes, LB Mason Lastor, OL William Twardowski, DL Austin Knappe, K Nolan Bartley.

2025 notes: Westlake enters 2025 hungry to reclaim its first state title since 2021 after last year's runner-up finish. QB Wise (2,598 yards, 23 TDs passing) leads a potent offense behind OL Hesse, while the defense features standouts such as DL Flynt (65 tackles, 10 TFL, 4 sacks) and DB Bennett (87 tackles, 2 INT). A grueling non-district slate will test the Chaparrals, but their playoff experience makes them a formidable contender. The team expects to be battle-tested and primed for another deep run. With a strong returning core, Westlake believes it has the pieces to compete for a state championship. The district remains competitive, but the Chaps have the talent to dominate. Can they take the final step and bring home the title?



Davis ROUP
QB
Katy Cinco Ranch



Daryl CAMPBELL
DL
Katy Paetow



Jeremiah SMITH
LB
Katy



Riley BLANTON
ATH
Richmond Foster

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 27-6A Preview

BRANDEIS BRONCOS

Coach: Kemmie Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 18/47. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 6-4/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Wynter Smith (6-3, 190, 4.6), WR Grayson Hallmark (5-10, 160, 4.6), TE Nick Barber (6-3, 260, 4.8), DL Robert Spears (6-2, 250, 4.9), DB Kai Luna (5-10, 160, 4.5), DL Christopher Parker (6-2, 285). Top juniors: DB Alexander Taylor (6-2, 185), DB Greggory Sharkey (5-11, 160, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Broncos are rebuilding after graduation took a heavy toll following last season. Last year ended in disappointment, as they didn't qualify for the postseason for the first time in three seasons. That will make getting to the playoffs more challenging. Luckily, for the Broncos, they enter the year with an established QB Smith (670 yards, 4 TDs passing; 1,121 yards, 9 TDs rushing), who is ready to build on an impressive sophomore season. The Broncos have a lot of other gaps to fill at the skill positions on offense. WR Hallmark is the top candidate to be Smith's go-to target. TE Barber added good size to the line. DLs Spears and Parker, along with DB Luna bring much-needed experience on the defensive side. Coach Lewis believes the team's talent will shine despite its inexperience.

CHURCHILL CHARGERS

Coach: Nate Shaw. Lettermen R/L: 20/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Aiden Ross (6-0, 210, 4.6), RB Kalobe Rond (5-7, 170, 4.4), OL Orion Palme (6-3, 240, 5.1), WR Jayden Watkins (6-0, 170), DB Jimi Curry (5-11, 180, 4.6), K/P Jason Cardenas (5-10, 180). Top juniors: WR Tim Mizell (6-1, 160, 4.6), LB Ethan Byrd (6-0, 190). Top sophomore: OL Zach Lindsey (6-1, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: TE Archer Fuchs, OL Luke Pruske, DB Prestin Hawkins, DB Ethan Arrambide, DL Jackson Crump.

2025 notes: The Chargers will rely on their experience on defense to return to the postseason for a second straight season. LB Ross and DB Curry lead the way on that side of the ball. RB Rond (774 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and WR Watkins (187 yards, 1 TD receiving) bring back the most experience on offense. Shaw said the running game is the Chargers' strength. Although they return a solid group, Shaw said it will be tough to replace the seniors from last season.

CLARK COUGARS

Coach: J.L. Geist. Lettermen R/L: 30/21. Starters returning O/D: 8-8. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Elisha Johnson (5-7, 135, 4.6), RB Xavier Canavis (5-11, 170, 4.6), LB/TE Michael Nwankwo (6-4, 220, 4.7), QB Isaiah Santillan (6-0, 160, 5.0), DB Brett Garza (5-8, 140, 4.8), DL Xavier Redding (6-1, 230, 5.2). Top juniors: QB/WR Reed Baldwin (5-11, 160, 4.7), LB/RB Dom Moore (6-1, 245, 4.8).

Other prospects: LB Brayden Black, DL Canaan Kneubuhl, WR Jackson Shannon, DB Carlos Camarillo, RB Tristan Childs, DL Ezekiel Surita, OL Lorenzo Melo, OL Stephan Hicks.

2025 notes: Coach Geist believes the Cougars are on solid footing to make a run for a third straight playoff appearance, thanks to a solid core of returning lettermen that include their three top offensive players. QB Santillan (1,411 yards, 11 TDs passing; 103 yards, 5 TDs rushing) will run things. WR Johnson (578 yards, 7 TDs) plays big despite his stature. He averaged nearly 40 yards on seven kickoff returns. He can also play defense, if needed. He earned all-district honors on offense and special teams. RB Canavis (1,432 yards, 15 TDs; 125 yards, 2 TDs) emerged as one of the city's top running backs. The defense is led by LB Nwankwo (29 tackles) and DL Redding (32 tackles, 1 sack, 1 INT), who earned all-district honors.

JOHNSON JAGUARS

Coach: T.P. Miller. Lettermen R/L: 24/42. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 10-2 DI area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Bryson Thompson (5-11, 175, 4.4), DB Mikhail McCreary (6-1, 160, 4.4), OL Joshua McNeil (5-11, 285, 5.8), DL Jaydon Bell (6-4, 240, 4.9), QB Elvis Estrada (6-0, 185, 4.7), LB Elijah Guajardo (6-1, 205, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Terrin Abrego (6-1, 310, 5.7) DB Jacob Mazzocco (6-0, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Quentin Padilla.

Other prospects: LB Cade Pantuso, DB Cameron McDuffie, RB Aaron Crawford, DB Ethan Wheelwright, WR T.J. Sutton, DL Courtney Smith, LB Aidan Poteet, DL Jacob Estevez.

2025 notes: The Jaguars will make a strong case for being the San Antonio area's top program heading into the season. That's impressive considering they won the district championship and are going for back-to-back league titles for the first time in the program's 18-year history. QB Estrada (2,146 yards, 22 TDs passing) quickly settled into the starting role as sophomore. WR Thompson (515 yards, 8 TDs receiving) is his top returning target. RB Crawford (347 yards, 6 TDs rushing) should be the main ball carrier following the graduation of district MVP Loren Johnson. DL Bell (38 tackles, 12 TFL, 6 sacks), LB Pantuso (79 tackles) and DB McCreary (4 INTs) lead the defense.

LEE VOLUNTEERS

Coach: Wendell Harris. Lettermen R/L: 29/17. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: DL/OL Kellen Harris (6-3, 265, 5.1), QB Zach Talamantes (6-1, 175, 4.8), DB Cristian Hill (5-8, 150, 4.7), WR Fabian Martinez (5-7, 160, 4.7), WR Alex Leza (5-5, 140, 4.7), DL Oax Humphrey (6-0, 265, 5.5). Top juniors: OL Jamie Robinson (5-11, 310, 5.7), OL Joaquín Castellano (5-9, 260, 5.6). Top sophomore: OL Nathan Rodriguez (6-2, 315, 5.8).

Other prospects: DB Will Hirschi, WR Dominik Ibarra, WR/DB Tony Ford, RB Taharie Chandler, LB Samuel Flores, DL Zander Gaytan, DB Elijah Ramirez, QB/LB Troy Sosa.

2025 notes: Lee's experience will be an asset as it tries to end a postseason drought that dates to 1993. The Volunteers have a terrific two-way starter in OL/DL Harris (15 tackles, 9 TFL, 1 sack), who earned first-team all-district honors on both sides of the line. QB Talamantes (550 yards, 5 TDs passing; 120 yards rushing) looks to build from last season. His top targets are WRs Martinez (125 yards, 1 TD) and Leza (386 yards rushing; 166 yards, 6 TDs receiving). The offensive line is fortified by Humphrey and Robinson, who goes by "Big Mac." DB Hill (72 tackles, 1 sack) is the Volunteers' top returner on defense, along with DB Hirschi (40 tackles, 1 INT).

MADISON MAVERICKS

Coach: Blaine Pederson. Lettermen R/L: 27/30. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Jordan Clay (6-4, 205, 4.5), DL Jameer Bailey (6-2, 235, 4.8), DL Axel Caracheo (6-1, 245, 4.8), LB Ivan Salinas (6-1, 180, 4.8), OL Jonathan Alvarez (5-7, 260, 5.2), LB Bryan Gutierrez (5-9, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Anthony Hunter (5-6, 150, 4.5), DB/WR Josiah Thomas (5-9, 150, 4.5). Top sophomore: DB Mikel Byles (6-2, 185, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Elijah Morton, QB Caleb Allen, DL/OL Jaidon Porter, TE Nathan Griffiths, LB Myron Byles, DB Darius Bishop.

2025 notes: The Mavericks possess one of the nation's most highly-recruited WRs in Clay (898 yards, 3 TDs receiving), but it will be defense that will determine their playoff fate. Pederson believes his Mavericks are talented enough on defense to contend in a district that has plenty of high-powered offenses. LB Salinas (58 tackles, 1 sack) leads a front seven that is the strength of the team. DLs Bailey (20 tackles, 5 TFL) and Caracheo (22 tackles,

District 27-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Elvis Estrada, San Antonio Johnson

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Cole Higby, San Antonio Reagan

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. San Antonio Johnson (3,182)
2. San Antonio Reagan (3,418)
3. San Antonio Brandeis (2,747)
4. San Antonio Clark (2,758)

5. San Antonio Churchill (2,446)
6. San Antonio Roosevelt (2,654)
7. San Antonio Madison (2,743)
8. San Antonio LEE (2,910.5)

4 TFL) stabilize the line. LB Guterriez (52 tackles, 3 sacks) makes a good tandem with Salinas. Finding a starting quarterback is a concern. QB Allen (149 yards, 1 TD passing) gets a chance to start full time after limited play.

REAGAN RATTTLERS

Coach: Preston Meyer. Lettermen R/L: 31/40. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Cole Higby (6-3, 220, 4.7), ATH Rayshun Hunt (5-10, 170, 4.4), TE/RB Ethan Hamlin (5-10, 215, 4.8), DL Hunter Caccitorre (6-2, 215, 4.8), TE R.C. Wagner (6-3, 220, 4.7), DB Jykel Harmon (6-1, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Ricky Armstrong (5-10, 160, 4.6), LB Ayden Fernandez (5-11, 205, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Jaden Bullock (5-8, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: K/P Andre Salazar, ATH Cody Ragsdale, OL Emiliano Garcia, DL Henry Guzman, OL Caedmon Garcia, OL Ethan Davila, LB Sutton Woolard, DL Ryan Cabrera.

2025 notes: The Rattlers won't skip a beat with Meyer in his first season leading the team after serving as defensive coordinator for four years. Experience should put the Rattlers in the mix to make a run for their third district championship in four seasons. Third-year starters LB Higby (77 tackles, 1 INT), ATH Hunt (677 yards total offense, 7 TDs), DL Caccitorre (31 solo tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks), DB Harmon (22 tackles) and TE/RB Hamlin lead the way. Hunt is one of the city's top sprinters and the Rattlers expect to use him in a variety of ways. TE Wagner can play on the line or split out wide. The Rattlers return three starters on the offensive line.

ROOSEVELT ROUGH RIDERS

Coach: Darnell Barnes. Lettermen R/L: 24/25. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Kaeden Scott (6-8, 295, 5.0), RB Yail Louis (5-8, 165, 4.5), OL Richard Severyns (6-3, 290, 5.0), DB Malcolm Rogers (5-7, 160, 4.5), DB Rayne Russell-Fields (6-1, 165, 4.5), LB Ethan Rocha (5-9, 165, 4.8). Top juniors: RB/WR LaMarque Mackey (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB Xavion Chambers (5-9, 175, 4.4).

Other prospect: RB Ernest Smith.

2025 notes: Coach Barnes considered last season a learning experience for his team, and believes those lessons will put the Rough Riders in playoff position. OL Scott has nearly 20 offers and is rising as one of the nation's top linemen. Roosevelt possesses great team speed and is physical. RB Louis (500 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is a tough inside runner. OL Severyns and Scott provide good rushing paths. DBs Rogers (37 tackles) is a lockdown cornerback and DB Russell-Fields has great range at free safety. LB Rocha (83 tackles) combines strength and speed. WR/RB Mackey has tremendous versatility and QB Chambers has a strong arm and high ceiling.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 28-6A Preview

BRENNAN BEARS

Coach: Stephen Basore. Lettermen R/L: 22/36. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 10-2 DI area finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Micai Thompson (6-0, 170, 4.5), QB Cayden Glass (5-9, 165, 4.6), LB/DB Timothy Cummings (5-10, 180, 4.6), DL Isaiah Tolefree (6-2, 240, 4.9), WR Donovan Lard (5-9, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: DB Aiden Martin (6-4, 185, 4.6), TE Gannon James (6-4, 200, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Jonas Brewster (5-8, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Garbiel Nelson, TE Ashton Hamilton, DB Jaylen Garner, DB Ethan Riojas.

2025 notes: Brennan returned to the top of the district ranks by capturing its third league title in four seasons. Basore believes the Bears are in good shape for another strong run because of their depth. RB Thompson (702 yards, 14 TDs rushing) is also a valuable blocker for QB Glass (1,385 yards, 14 TDs passing; 693 yards, 6 TDs rushing). WR Lard (341 yards, 4 TDs) could be a top target. LB/DB Cummings (85 tackles, 30 TFL, 1 sack) is an excellent hybrid player that Basore loves. DL Tolefree (48 tackles, 23 TFL, 3 sacks) has excellent athleticism and speed and can make plays all over the field. DB Martin (30 tackles) and LB Brewster (44 tackles) get a chance for full-time duty.

HARLAN HAWKS

Coach: Eddie Salas. Lettermen R/L: 21/45. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 12-2 DII region finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB G'Ivori Graham (5-10, 195, 4.3), DB Taveion Ford (6-0, 190, 4.4), LB Maddox Berantuo (6-3, 210, 4.5), QB Aldric Trotter (5-11, 180, 4.4), WR Jordan Grady (5-11, 185, 4.5), DB Addon Palmer (6-2, 205, 4.5). Top juniors: QB Aiden Pitchford (6-1, 180, 4.7), DL Conner Stevens (6-1, 225, 4.9). Top sophomore: DL Jayson Contreras (6-0, 275, 5.0).

Other prospects: LB Robert Gonzales, DL Mujtaba Bhatti, WR Brandon Robertson, OL Donovan Arguijo, TE Marquez Perkins, DL Kawai McDonald, WR Akadius Dennis, OL Elijah Julian.

2025 notes: Although the Hawks graduated a majority of their starters from a team that made the deepest playoff run in the program history, there are plenty of reasons to be optimistic this season because most of their playmakers return. QB Trotter (2,500 yards, 25 TDs passing; 930 yards rushing) thrived in his first season as the Hawks' starter. RB Graham (700 yards rushing; 309 yard receiving; 8 total TDs) is a threat to score any time he has the ball. WR Grady (305 yards receiving) moves into the role of primary receiver. DB Ford (40 tackles, 2 INTs) plays with aggression and is physical. LB Berantuo (50 tackles, 10 TFL) also plays with aggression. Salas expects DB Parker (60 tackles, 8 TFL) to build from his first varsity season.

HOLMES HUSKIES

Coach: Pete Padilla. Lettermen R/L: 26/17. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jayden Hopkins (6-1, 185, 4.6), OL John Escobar (6-2, 330), DB Edward Valle (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Anderson Perez (6-0, 260, 5.6), OL Rylee Medel (6-4, 265, 5.7).

2025 notes: Padilla said the team's experience on offense should improve the fortunes of the Huskies, who are searching for their first playoff spot since 2000. ATH Hopkins (1,046 yards, 13 TDs rushing; 282 yards, 3 TDs receiving) is a third-year starter who will be used in a variety of ways on offense. QB Zach Torres (621 yards, 5 TDs) is the team's leading returning passer. OLs Escobar, an all-district pick in 2024, Perez and Medel solidify the line. DB Valle is a proven talent on defense. K Mauricio Estrella (25/25 PATs; 2/2 FGs) was perfect last year.

MARSHALL RAMS

Coach: Tim Williams. Lettermen R/L: 26/25. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: DB Braylin Bailey, RB Sidney Lewis, DB Samuel Rountree, WR Daryus Ortiz, DL Nathan Perez, RB Brayton Glover. Top juniors: LB Tayvion Nelson, RB Elijah Williams.

Other prospects: QB Chase Chapa, WR Davian Garcia, OL Noah Castilleja, LB Jackson Krause, WR Ryan Hayes, DL Carlos Garza.

2025 notes: The Rams are in position to secure their first playoff spot since 2021, thanks to experience at key positions, Williams said. Still, there is work to do, especially with the player responsible for running the offense. QB Chapa (92 yards passing), RB Lewis (105 yards rushing) and WR Ortiz (62 yards receiving) are the Rams' top returning statistical leaders. DB Bailey (52 tackles, 1 INT) and DB Rountree (1 sack) are the team's top returning players on defense. Depth is a concern with inexperienced players filling reserve roles.

O'CONNOR PANTHERS

Coach: David Malesky. Lettermen R/L 29/26. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/4-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Jacob Lopez-Veasey (6-4, 245, 4.5), K/P Lane Rigby (6-1, 165, 4.8), WR Riley Eason (5-7, 155, 4.4), DB/LB Ethan Soto (5-10, 170, 4.7), QB Jake Garza (5-9, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: DL Ethan Davila (5-10, 210, 5.1), WR/DB Evan Balboa (5-10, 165, 4.7).

2025 notes: O'Connor is searching for its first playoff berth since 2019. That's a challenge considering the Panthers are fairly inexperienced. DL Lopez-Veasey (40 tackles, 5 TFL, 4 sacks) is O'Connor's top college prospect. DL/LB Soto (35 tackles) is expected to be an impact player. WR Eason (364 yards, 5 TDs receiving) is also dangerous on special teams as a kick and punt returner. K/P Rigby made 5 of 7 FGs with a long of 52 yards last season. He averaged 40 yards per punt. QB Garza (712 yards, 7 TDs passing) will build from last year. DL Davila (34 tackles, 2 sacks) and WR Balboa (157 yards receiving) gained valuable experience as sophomores.

SOTOMAYOR WILDCATS

Coach: Juan Morales. Lettermen R/L: 39/30. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 7-5 DII area finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Cameron Grady (6-2, 205, 4.6), QB Chauncey Moon (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR Xavier Victor (5-9, 175, 4.6), DL Tyce Washington (6-1, 225, 4.8) DB Aaron Adejobi (6-0, 185, 4.6), LB Manny Gutierrez (6-2, 195, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Chance Collier (5-11, 180, 4.6), OL Tristan Bergeron (6-1, 235, 5.2). Top sophomore: RB Alijah McDory (5-9, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Devon Deanda, OL Curtis Bagsby, DL Braxton King, LB Quentin Batts, OL Ayden Williams.

2025 notes: Sotomayor's slow burn into relevancy finally paid off last year after the Wildcats qualified for the playoffs for the first time in the program's three seasons. In Year 4, Sotomayor looks to build consistency. Morales believes the team's senior class – the first to attend the school for all four years – is invested in building tradition. DB Adejobi (91 tackles, 3 INTs) and DL Washington (40 tackles, 6 sacks) are two of those senior leaders. The juniors will factor in, too. RB Grady (1,371 yards, 14 TDs rushing), QB Moon (634 yards, 11 TDs passing) and WR Victor (90 yards, 1 TD receiving), all juniors, lead the offense. One concern is the offensive and defensive lines, which lack experience.

STEVENS FALCONS

Coach: Anthony Boykin. Lettermen R/L: 49/33. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Josiah Turner (5-11, 185, 4.6), QB Isaiah Farris (5-9, 165, 4.5), DB Aiden Rodriguez (5-9, 165, 4.7), DB Manuel Angel (5-9, 160, 4.7), DB Jordan Ortega (5-10, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: DL Kaleb Ned (6-3, 255, 5.1), WR Morgan Sanchez (5-11, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Aayden Rosario, DL Martin Barrett, DL Angel Salas, LB Michael Fuentes, RB Joel Zertuche, DL Eiden Pavon, QB Caleb Revilla, LB Hayden Tatum.

2025 notes: The Falcons are retooling after graduation took a heavy toll. That will be a challenge for a team that won twice last season. Coach Boykin believes the Falcons have a lot of potential with several poised for breakout seasons. Among them are QB Farris (421 yards passing; 581 yards, 8 TDs rushing), who runs the Falcons' "Flexbone" offense. RB Zertuche fills the fullback role. Turner is the team's best

District 28-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Aldric Trotter, San Antonio Harlan

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB/DB Timothy Cummings, San Antonio Brennan

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. San Antonio Brennan (3,062)
2. San Antonio Harlan (2,466)
3. San Antonio Sotomayor (2,390)
4. San Antonio Taft (2,738)

5. San Antonio O'Connor (2,601)
6. San Antonio Warren (2,616)
7. San Antonio Marshall (2,602)
8. San Antonio Stevens (2,757)
9. San Antonio Holmes (2,611)

receiver. DB Rodriguez (68 tackles, 6 TFL) is the team's top returning tackler. DL Salas (2 sacks) had the most sacks among the returnees. The Falcons are searching for their first playoff appearance since 2020.

TAFT RAIDERS

Coach: Ricky Stade. Lettermen R/L: 25/28. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 6-5 DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Tucker Vogel (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB Isiah Delgado (5-8, 180, 4.6), OL Matthew McDougall (6-2, 175, 5.2), LB Tristan Clark (5-10, 190, 4.7), DB Cody Jackson (5-11, 160, 4.6), DL Jay-Vaughn Guyton (6-1, 255). Top juniors: DB/WR Brody Thompson (5-7, 165, 4.5), OL Jacob Soto (6-3, 285, 5.3).

Other prospects: WR David Aguirre, WR Landon Shea, DL Ryan Harr, OL Preston Soto, DL Ian Garcia, OL/DL Austin McEllis, DB Myles Major, LB Elijah DeHoyos.

2025 notes: Stade likes his returning talent on offense and that should put the Raiders in contention to secure their sixth straight playoff appearance. QB Vogel (1,277 yards, 13 TDs passing; 1,011 yards, 12 TDs rushing) was the district newcomer of the year, emerging as one of the San Antonio area's top new talents. RB Delgado (101 yards rushing; 274 yards receiving) will become a full-time running back after serving in a utility role last season. OL McDougall can play guard or tackle. DL Guyton (35 tackles, 4 TFL) should see more time after rotating on the line. LB Clark (82 tackles) covers a lot of ground, as does DB Jackson (57 tackles, 3 INTs) at free safety.

WARREN WARRIORS

Coach: Matt Arrufat. Lettermen R/L: 32/35. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: LB Christian Barbary (5-11, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Cal Carpenter (6-3, 225, 4.8), DB/P/QB Jeremiah Casias (5-9, 150, 4.6), WR Jamare Jones (5-10, 150, 4.5), RB Lorenzo Ramirez (5-8, 165, 4.5), LB Ernesto James (5-8, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: QB Mac Anderson (5-11, 160, 4.7), DB/WR Julius Daniel (6-2, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: DL/TE Dwight Apia (6-2, 205, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Carlos Rivera, WR Jathan Manglona, LB/RB Michael Martinez, DL/RB Steve Jimenez, DB/WR Dallas Reed, DB/WR Giovanni Soto-Velasquez, LB/RB Chase Stewart, OL Josiah Johnson.

2025 notes: After a series of close losses last year in his first season at Warren, Arrufat is optimistic about his team's chances. However, the Warriors are still in for a challenge because of their inexperience. Warren will lean on leadership on defense to carry them early with LB Barbary (32 tackles, 1 sack), DB Casias (66 tackles, 1 sack, 2 INTs) and LB James (66 tackles, 2 sacks, 1 INT). OL/DL Carpenter (32 tackles) can make an impact on both sides of the ball. The quarterback position was a question mark heading into spring. The Warriors have a pair of strong weapons on offense in WR Jones (27 receptions, 618 all-purpose yards, 6 TDs) and RB Ramirez (387 all-purpose yards, 3 TDs).

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Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 29-6A Preview

CANYON COUGARS

Coach: Sean McAuliffe. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-5 DII region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Luke Bell (6-0, 175, 4.5), RB Jackson Regan (5-10, 205, 4.5), RB Logan Andrews (6-1, 190, 4.7), DL/LB Elijah Delgado (6-0, 175, 4.7), DL Casen Tippet (6-3, 265, 5.2). Top juniors: LB Devan Legunas (5-7, 165, 4.7), WR Donnie Craycraft (5-9, 155, 4.6). Top sophomore: QB Knox Ford (6-3, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Joseph Coronado, LB Quincy Jones, DB Joseph Simcik.

2025 notes: Although the Cougars have some key roles to fill, they will contend for a postseason spot with the return of dynamic RB Regan (1,860 yards, 25 TDs rushing; 216 yards, 3 TDs receiving), one of the San Antonio area's top running backs and DB Bell (37 tackles), a future P4 player who was a disruptive force in the three games he played last season. LB Andrews (65 tackles, 10 TFL) was the district newcomer of the year in 2024. DL/LB Delgado (51 tackles, 2 INTs) and DL Trippitt (34 tackles) were first team all-district picks. The biggest hole is QB, and Ford is the best prospect after serving as the junior varsity signal-caller as a freshman.

CLEMENS BUFFALOES

Coach: Alan Hill. Lettermen R/L: 25/32. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 2-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Christian Dupree (6-4, 160, 4.4), LB Cylean Whitley (6-1, 205, 4.6), WR Derrick Williams (6-2, 175, 4.5), DB Azsir Cumbly (6-0, 175, 4.6), DE/LB Kameron Hoosier (6-1, 215, 4.6), LB Aaron Grace (5-11, 215, 4.7), WR Trey Burton (6-3, 185, 4.6), QB Callen Kiobassa, TE Case Dierschke, DB/LB Aaron Myers, OL/DL Trenton Hewlitt, K/P Chris Aikman, OL Labree Wilder, RB Gavin Townsend.

2025 notes: Coach Hill is officially the head coach after serving 2024 on an interim basis. The Buffaloes' experience lies at receiver, and they are deep at linebacker. WR Dupree (602 yards, 7 TDs receiving) is the Buffaloes' best college football prospect. WRs Williams (283 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and Burton (240 yards, 1 TD receiving) fill Clemens' depth at that position. They will be effective once the Buffaloes settle on a starting quarterback. Kiobassa (329 yards, 1 TD passing) is the top returning passer. Linebacker depth includes Grace (64 tackles), Whitley and Hoosier, who can also play defensive end.

EAST CENTRAL HORNETS

Coach: Joe Hubbard. Lettermen R/L 21/37. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 9-4 DI region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Braylon Blair (6-0, 225, 4.6), OL Sammy Kohn (6-2, 270, 5.0), LB/RB Gabriel Chavarria (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Raymond Gloria (6-0, 190, 4.7), WR Jay Crosby (6-1, 175, 4.5), WR Joseph Kelly (6-3, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: QB Isaiah Gonzalez (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL Raymond Charles (6-1, 240, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL Khalil Thomas (6-3, 270, 5.2).

Other prospects: WR De'Rionn Smith-Claire (5-10, 165, 4.5), TE Daniel Bustamante.

2025 notes: The Hornets are building it back up again after going on their deepest playoff run since 1985. But, East Central has recently found a way to stay in playoff contention despite any obstacles. The Hornets are looking to get to the postseason for the fourth time in the last five years. Hubbard said the team's biggest challenge will be its lack of size, but he likes the team's chemistry. LB Blair (127 tackles, 2 sacks) returns as a third-year starter. LB Chavarria (113 tackles, 4 sacks) and DB Gloria (61 tackles, 2 INTs) are quality veterans. WRs Kelly (48 receptions) and Smith-Cline (41 receptions, 14 TDs) are the Hornets' best offensive threats heading into the season. OL Kohn has been a consistent blocker.

JOHNSON JAGUARS

Coach: Sam Carlin. Lettermen R/L: 30/37. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 8-5 DI region semifinalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Dre Giello (5-11, 200, 4.8), WR Keane McGettrick (6-0, 195, 4.7), WR Tim Mata (5-9, 155, 4.4), DB Jett Hickson (5-10, 175, 4.5), OL Ethan Maynes (6-4, 260, 4.9), DL Seamus Gosey (6-0, 215, 4.9), RB Maddox Martinez (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL Zachary Antoine (6-3, 260, 5.0), LB Stylz Ogden, LB/DL Waylon Griffith, OL Jovan Martinez, QB Jonah Montgomery, LB Fisher Chung, TE Kolbie Brown, TE Angel Millan, RB/WR Johnny Beck.

2025 notes: Defense is the key as the Jaguars look for back-to-back playoff appearances for the first time in the program's seven-year history. Coach Carlin considers LB Giello (92 tackles) one of the best at his position in the district. DB Hickson (55 tackles, 1 INT) offers valuable experience, along with DL Gosey (45 tackles). Quarterback remained a question mark heading into the spring. WR McGettrick has the chance to be the team's top target. WR Mata is versatile with more than 500 all-purpose yards in 2024. OL Maynes didn't allow a sack and leads the line. OL Antoine joins the line full time after rotating there in 2024. RB Martinez gets a chance after rushing 10 times last year.

District 29-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jonathan Hatton, Cibolo Steele

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Luke Bell, New Braunfels Canyon

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Cibolo Steele (2,769)
2. San Marcos (2,505)
3. New Braunfels Canyon (2,433)
4. Buda Johnson (2,815)
5. San Antonio East Central (3,542)
6. Converse Judson (2,518)
7. Schertz Clemens (2,648)

JUDSON ROCKETS

Coach: Mark Soto. Lettermen R/L: 25/32. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Kayden Graham (5-9, 150, 4.8), OL Nate Boudy (6-3, 260, 5.3), OL Jai'storm Knight (6-8, 350), WR Elijah Massengale (5-9, 160, 4.6), LB Marcel Smith, DB/LB Ayden Ramirez. Top juniors: A.K. Davis (5-7, 160, 4.7), QB Dominique Davis (5-11, 175, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Joseph Dimando (5-11, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Mehki Moore, RB Caiden Walker, QB Brayden Smith.

2025 notes: The Rockets have a lot of holes to fill, but Soto believes his team is prepared to get back to the playoffs after missing them for the second time in four seasons. It's going to be a challenge, though. The biggest need is finding a starting QB following the graduation of three-year starter Elijah Favela. QB Davis started for a junior varsity team that was 6-4 last year. QB Dimando is a speedster and a track standout in the 200-meter dash. RB Graham (845 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 249 yards, 1 TD receiving) is the top returning offensive player. OLs Boudy and Knight are valuable returners in the trenches. LB Smith (104 tackles) is a top-flight defender.

SAN MARCOS RATTLERS

Coach: John Walsh. Lettermen R/L: 12/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB I'Zayah Young (6-0, 215, 4.5), OL Nick Henry (6-5, 290, 5.1), WR/DB Henry Harris (6-3, 190, 4.5), QB Frans Steyn (6-5, 210, 4.6), OL/DL Shavion Anderson (6-3, 285, 5.1), LB/TE Darrius Davis (6-3, 225, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Jordan Lamkin (5-11, 175, 4.5), DB Sebastian Diaz (5-11, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: LB/RB Cameron Bundage (5-11, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: DL Trey Walker, RB/DB Justin Tardy, DB Javion Rhodes, RB Donovan Garcia, RB/WR Elliot Gray, DL/WR Jah'Marien Nichols, OL Derrick McGarrity, TE Robert Mayo.

2025 notes: Last year's winless record is deceiving because the Rattlers possess some of the best talent in their area. Players who were ineligible due to UIL sanctions for recruiting violations are now eligible to play for their senior years. Many of them were on a loaded junior varsity team that went 10-0 last year. QB Steyn, LB Young, OL Henry and WR/DB Harris are some of the top college football recruits in the state. WR/DB Lampkin (478 yards, 5 TDs receiving; 86 tackles, 4 INTs) is a terrific two-way player. OL/DL Anderson (4 sacks) is the program's strongest player, according to Walsh.

STEELE KNIGHTS

Coach: David Saenz. Lettermen R/L: 38/52. Starters returning O/D: 2/5. 2024: 11-2 DII region semifinalist/6-0 district.

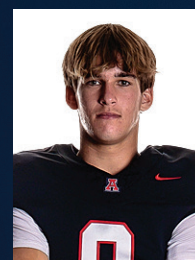
Players to watch: RB Jonathan Hatton (6-1, 215, 4.4), DL Julian Hugo (6-4, 240, 4.7), DB Eli Johnson (6-4, 190, 4.5), OL Pryce McClanahan (6-2, 305, 5.1), DL Kenyon Watkins (6-3, 255, 4.8). Top juniors: LB/RB Marshall Kenner (5-10, 190, 4.5), DL Jerry Robinson (6-4, 245, 4.7), OL Zackary Broom (6-0, 255, 5.1).

Other prospects: LB/DB Pearce Kempe, QB Malcolm Carter, WR Micah Sheeler, WR Jamin Harvelt, DB Michael Johnson, OL James Corona, DB Maverick James, TE Dominic Warner.

2025 notes: It's been a while since the Knights have been in rebuild mode, but that's what they face heading into the season. Steele graduated San Antonio's most prolific recruiting class that includes the area's all-time passing leader Chad Warner. But, the Knights are not short on talent. RB Hatton (1,225 yards, 21 TDs rushing) has been a starter since his freshman season and should carry the rushing load. DL Hugo (83 tackles, 9.5 sacks) landed on plenty of recruiting radars after a breakthrough junior season. The defense is fortified by three juniors that had impactful sophomore seasons — DB Johnson (68 tackles, 2 INTs), LB Kenner (82 tackles, 2 INTs) and DL Robinson (27 tackles, 2 sacks).



George
JREISSATY
RB
Fort Bend
Clements



Koen
HERRMANN
QB
Fort Bend Austin



Avery
MORCHO
OL
Fort Bend
Ridge Point



David
BREWER
WR
Fort Bend Travis

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 30-6A Preview

ALEXANDER BULLDOGS

Coach: Edwin Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 21/44. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 6-5 DII bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Hector Benavides (6-0, 175, 4.5), DL Charlie Uribe (6-2, 190, 4.8), DB Adam Trejo (5-9, 175, 4.8), Karlo Tenorio (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB Gael Rubio (5-8, 180, 4.6), DB/WR Rickey Carson (6-3, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/RB Brennan Kisslinger (5-9, 170, 4.7), DL Walter Gonzalez (6-0, 220, 4.9). Top sophomore: DB Michael Vigil III (5-10, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Jay Alvarado, LB Caleb Palomo, WR Jayden Gonzalez, WR Luis Blanco, OL Eddie Martinez, RB Javier Trejo, DL Emil Cardenas, LB O.J. Cabrera.

2025 notes: After finishing runner-up the last two years, the Bulldogs are ready to make a charge toward their first district championship since 2011 thanks to a strong group of third-year starters. DB Benavides (106 tackles, 3 TDs) is a disruptor who also forced three fumbles en route to earning all-state honors. He's expected to contribute offensively, too. DL Uribe (50 tackles, 8 TFL, 3 sacks) is an energetic player who also had 20 hurries. DB/WR Carson (479 yards, 3 TDs receiving) starts on both sides. QB Tenorio (1,002 yards, 7 TDs passing) got off to a strong start before he was injured last year. RB Rubio (365 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is the go-to guy on offense.

DEL RIO RAMS

Coach: Fiacro Ramirez. Lettermen R/L: 26/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Jayden Mendoza (5-11, 175, 4.6), DB Jacob Ortiz (6-0, 180, 4.5), LB Mathew Abrego (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL Damian Guerrero (6-4, 265), OL Diego Hernandez (6-4, 275), LB Juan Hernandez (5-9, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Ethan Dobbins (6-0, 150, 4.6), DB Jose Garcia (5-11, 170, 4.6), DB Richard Camposano, WR Caleb Villa, OL/DL Luke Minor, DL Yeshua Bocanegra.

2025 notes: The Rams' experience from last season might be enough to push them into the playoffs for the first time since 2022. Del Rio is also in search of its first winning season since 2016, when the Rams were district champions. Coach Ramirez lists his senior class as the strength of his team. QB Mendoza, DL Yeshua, DB Ortiz, LB Abrego and LB Juan Hernandez return as second-team and honorable mention all-district picks. The Rams graduated four who earned first-team honors.

EAGLE PASS EAGLES

Coach: Roger Olivas. Lettermen R/L: 32/34. Starters returning O/D: 9/5. 2024: 4-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Luis Flores (5-10, 205, 4.6), WR/DB Sebastian Velasquez (5-9, 160, 4.5), QB Xavier Barrera (6-0, 165, 4.5), DB Rodrigo Garcia (6-0, 175, 4.6), DL Anthony Paniagua (5-9, 185, 4.8), LB/DL Ricky Martinez (6-1, 200, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Jayden Garcia (6-1, 275, 5.4), RB Diego Melgoza (5-10, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/WR/LB Avery Embry (5-10, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Eddie Lopez, DL Arturo Hernandez, QB Alex Ruiz, OL Robert Miranda, OL Robert Quintero, DB Jorge Martinez, WR Marco Medellin, LB/DL Manny Fernandez.

2025 notes: The Eagles are looking to get back to the playoffs with an experienced team, especially on offense. The 2024 season was the first time Eagle Pass didn't have a winning record or make the playoffs since 2016. QB Barrera (1,117 yards, 10 TDs passing; 408 yards, 2 TDs rushing) leads the offense. RB Flores (767 yards, 8 TDs) is a strong rusher with great balance. WR Velasquez (325 yards, 5 TDs) is a great route runner with breakaway speed. DB Garcia (110 tackles, 3 INTs) earned all-state honors. DL Paniagua (62 tackles, 14 TFL, 8 sacks) has a knack for finding the ball carrier. LB/DL Martinez (55 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) is excellent among the Eagles' front seven.

LBJ WOLVES

Coach: Leonel Mireles III. Lettermen R/L: 23/23. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: DB Leo Mireles IV (5-11, 175, 4.7), DB William Rodriguez (5-8, 165, 4.9), DB Bernie Ramos (5-8, 150, 4.8), WR Ivan Gonzalez (5-11, 175, 4.8), QB Vicente Robles (5-9, 185, 4.6), OL Leo Perez (5-11, 250, 5.1), LB Ramses Gonzalez (5-11, 180, 4.9), WR Aiden De Leon (5-9, 160, 4.7), WR Jose Luis Pacheco (5-8, 155, 4.7), DL Diego Estevis, RB Mauricio Lopez, OL Sammy Marroquin, DL Luis Trevino, TE Jose Gongora, LB Abryn Diaz, DB Blas Sanchez.

2025 notes: Coach Mireles believes his team's experience at the skill positions puts them in playoff contention, which would be a massive breakthrough. The Wolves have qualified for the playoffs only once (2014) since the program was established in 2004. DB Mireles IV (74 tackles) was the district's defensive newcomer of the year. DBs Rodriguez (47 tackles, 4 INT) and Ramos (45 tackles) were all-district selections. QB Robles (1,231 yards, 5 TDs passing; 315 yards, 6 TDs rushing) leads the offense and WR Gonzalez (508 yards, 4 TDs receiving) is his top target.

District 30-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jorge Luna, Laredo United

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Hector Benavides, Laredo Alexander

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Laredo United (3,591)
2. Castroville Medina Valley (2,406.5)
3. Laredo Alexander (3,205)
4. Laredo United South (3,287)
5. Eagle Pass (2,317)
6. Laredo LBJ (3,335.5)
7. Del Rio (3,015)

MEDINA VALLEY PANTHERS

Coach: Andrew Britt. Lettermen R/L: 31/32. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Beau Wiemers (5-10, 240), DB Connor Crisp, OL Dawson Smith, QB Xavier Gonzalez (5-11, 175, 4.9), RB Dezerin Wright (5-2, 190, 4.8), RB Jason Zendejas (5-8, 205, 5.0). Top juniors: LB Reed Renslow, OL Bryan Baker. Top sophomore: WR Kevin Straughter.

Other prospects: WR Joseph Haby, WR Easton Lange, WR Raymond Rodriguez, OL Lane Solis, DL Alejandro Hernandez, DB Matthew Philpott.

2025 notes: The Panthers qualified for the postseason as a first-year Class 6A program. They have some work to do if they want to repeat the feat because they have a lot of holes to fill on defense. Britt said the Panthers will need to lean on the offense early while the inexperienced defense gets situated to the speed of varsity play. The Panthers strength lies on the offensive line with four returning starters, including Wiemers and Smith, who each earned first-team all-district honors. DB Crisp (89 tackles, 1 INT) was selected as the district's most outstanding defensive back. He returned a punt and kickoff for a score and is expected to get some snaps on offense.

UNITED LONGHORNS

Coach: David Sanchez. Lettermen R/L: 30/24. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 7-4 DI bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Colt Lozano (5-11, 165), QB Jorge Luna (6-0, 175), WR Rolando San Miguel (6-0, 170), RB Juan Lopez (5-5, 160), WR Jesus Garcia-Perez (6-2, 190), RB Victor Reyes (5-10, 160). Top juniors: DB Ethan Estrada (5-10, 175), WR/RB Aaden Ochoa (5-5, 140). Top sophomore: DL Andrew Farmer (6-4, 245).

Other prospects: OL Romeo Sepulveda, DB Alfred Addo-Mensah, Cody Manning, DL/LB Moy Montemayor, DL Gabriel Gutierrez, DL Jorge Robles.

2025 notes: United is pursuing a third straight outright district championship with the return of two of the city's top players. WR Lozano (1,180 yards, 13 TDs receiving) was selected as Laredo's Player of the Year, district MVP and all-state. QB Luna (2,256 yards, 25 TDs passing), the district offensive MVP, thrives in Sanchez's spread offense. WRs San Miguel (526 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and Garcia-Perez (406 yards, 7 TDs receiving) take some of the pressure off Lozano. RB Lopez (327 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is ready to take a bigger role in the offense. DB Estrada (94 tackles) was a first-team all-district pick. DL Robles (22 tackles, 2 sacks), DB/LB Montemayor (2 INTs) also return with experience.

UNITED SOUTH PANTHERS

Coach: Carlos Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 13/38. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 4-7 DI bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Rolando Gonzalez (5-10, 155, 4.9), RB Alfredo Sandoval (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL Cedric Scott (6-4, 340), DL Cristian Martinez (5-10, 205, 5.1), DB Yandel Lopez (5-9, 160, 4.8), DB Ryan Garcia (5-8, 150, 4.7), DL Hector Hinojosa (6-1, 220, 4.9), WR Jayden Muniz (5-9, 150, 4.8), TE Aaron Mendoza (5-9, 190, 5.0), DL Gael Rodriguez (6-2, 225, 5.1), LB Anthony Tello (5-8, 205, 5.1), DL Isidro Garcia (5-11, 275).

2025 notes: The backfield combo of QB Gonzalez (1,939 yards, 21 TDs passing) and RB Sandoval (451 yards, 2 TDs rushing), the team's fastest player, put the Panthers in district championship contention. The Panthers will rely on the running game early as their young receivers get acclimated to varsity play. OL Scott anchors the line. DL Martinez (22 tackles, 2 sacks), DB Lopez (51 tackles, 2 INTs) and DB Garcia (40 tackles) lead the defense. DL Hinojosa (15 tackles, 3 sacks) is a disruptive force with two forced fumbles, two pass deflections and nine pressures last season.



Chris
STEWART
WR
Alvin
Shadow Creek



Cam
RENFRO
QB
Manvel



Devan
ROBISON
OL
Pasadena
Memorial



Jaylen
STEWART
DE
Pearland

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 31-6A Preview

ECONOMEDES JAGUARS

Coach: Raul Salas. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: N/A. 2024: 5-6 DI bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Jaime Fagia, LB Tony Garcia, OL David Aguilar, QB John Carreon, RB Johan Nunez, RB Reyes Luna, DB Matthew Echavira, LB Josiah Villarreal, DL Marco Gomez, DB Angel Martinez, LB Matt Cortez, DL Jimmy Espinoza, FB Carlos Garcia.

2025 notes: The Jaguars are coming off their best season and first playoff appearance since 2016 and hope to keep the momentum rolling into 2025. Economedes ran wild in the Wing-T and brings back all three of its leading rushers in QB Carreon (594 yards, 3 TDs passing; 771 yards, 10 TDs rushing) and the duo of RB Nunez (948 yards, 9 TDs rushing) and FB Garcia (811 yards, 7 TDs rushing). The Jaguars also return three of their top four tacklers in LB Fagia (64 tackles, 3 sacks), LB Villarreal (49 tackles) and LB Garcia (39 tackles). The trio and experience at the linebacker spot will spearhead Economedes' multiple defense. The Jaguars have the potential to make back-to-back playoff appearances if they can execute on a consistent basis.

EDINBURG BOBCATS

Coach: Joey Pena. Lettermen R/L: 21/29. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Woodrow Villarreal (5-10, 170, 4.6), LB Moises Hernandez (5-10, 185, 4.8), DL David Garza (6-2, 210, 4.7), DL Diego Gonzalez (5-11, 275, 5.0), WR Jude Vega (5-7, 145, 4.7), WR Ethan Calderon (5-7, 145, 4.7), RB Oscar Jasso (5-6, 145, 4.6), ATH Tyler Galvan (5-9, 175, 4.8), DB Isaiah Cisneros, OL Ryan Garza, LB Orly Martinez, QB Aidden Sanchez, OL Robert Torres, DL Esteban Damian.

2025 notes: The Edinburg Bobcats are under new direction with HC Pena taking over a tradition-rich program that has 18 returning starters back for 2025. QB Sanchez saw some time behind center last season and has two four-year studs at WR in Calderon (26-288 yards receiving) and Vega (17-179 yards, 1 TD receiving). RB Jasso (508 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is the team's top returning rusher, although LB/RB Villarreal (96 tackles) could handle some touches out of the backfield. The defense has dudes at every level with DL Garza (59 tackles, 6 sacks) and DL Gonzalez (87 tackles) anchoring the front line, LB Hernandez (129 tackles, 2 INTs) as a dominant force in the middle and ATH Galvan (71 tackles) patrolling the secondary.

EDINBURG NORTH COUGARS

Coach: Rigo Morales. Starters returning O/D: 3/7. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Brian Morado (5-11, 196, 4.7), LB Vicente Cappadona (5-11, 205, 4.8), OL Gerardo Mancha (5-11, 300, 5.2), WR Kiandre Estrada (6-2, 165, 4.7), DL Santino Alonzo (5-9, 175, 4.7), DB Angel Mendoza (5-10, 160, 4.6), QB Jorge Trevino (5-10, 150, 4.8), DB Jonathan Ramirez (5-9, 148, 4.7), ATH Ethan Nino (5-7, 145, 4.6), RB Mario Salinas, TE Vincent Cano, OL Anthony Guzman, LB Devin Ruiz, LB Natanael Cardenas, LB Max Gomez, DB Christopher Tomlinson, TE Melvin Castillo.

2025 notes: The Cougars are under new direction as former Bishop HC Morales takes over the program. North has remained competitive but will have work to do to earn its way back into the playoffs after missing out on the party last year. WR Estrada has the size and speed to torch defenses and can run through them with the ball in his hands. QB Trevino will look for him often as they look to raise the play offensively after struggling a season ago. While the Cougars will be young offensively, they'll have seven returning starters to hold things down defensively. LB Morado and LB Cappadona are solid defenders at the second level while DL Alonzo and DB Mendoza anchor the defensive line and secondary.

LA JOYA COYOTES

Coach: Reuben Farias. Lettermen R/L: 15/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Dante Perez (5-8, 175, 4.9), RB Mauricio Mendoza (5-9, 190, 5.0), WR Alex Garza (5-6, 165, 4.9), LB Joshua Flores (5-9, 190, 4.9), LB Steven Ramirez (5-10, 195, 5.0), DB Leo Maldonado (6-0, 185, 4.9), Val Benoit (6-0, 195, 5.0), WR Luis Arjona (5-8, 175, 4.8).

District 31-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Chris Luna, Weslaco

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Woodrow Villarreal, Edinburg

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Pharr-San Juan-Alamo (2,401)
2. Weslaco (2,742)
3. Edinburg (2,410)
4. Edinburg Economedes (2,829)
5. Edinburg North (2,687)
6. La Joya (2,645.5)

2025 notes: La Joya looks to have its strongest team in a few years with experience and playmaking ability at key positions on both sides of the ball. The Coyotes have transitioned to a spread offense the last few years and were productive at times last season. QB Benoit (889 yards, 8 TDs passing) has developed behind center after starting as a freshman and sophomore, while RB Mendoza (1,440 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is consistent and powerful with the ball in his hands. WR Perez, WR Garza and WR Arjona will line up outside as Benoit's top targets. The Coyotes run a 3-4 defense, which allows LB Flores (79 tackles) and LB Ramirez (37 tackles) to make tackles as DB Maldonado (58 tackles) defends in the secondary.

PSJA BEARS

Coach: Lupe Rodriguez. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 9-3 DII area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Dylan Rodriguez (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR Riley Limon (6-3, 200, 4.6), WR JD Saucedo (6-2, 190, 4.6), DB Mathew Azuara (5-9, 175, 4.6), DL Jacob Cuevas (6-2, 225, 5.0), DL Marco Maynez (5-10, 190, 4.9), OL Miguel Maynez (5-10, 200, 5.0), OL Nicholas Lopez (5-10, 200, 5.0), OL Manny Chavez (6-0, 200, 5.1).

Other prospects: RB Arnold Arroyo, WR Ramze Arroyo, OL Justin Saldana, WR Donovan Vega, DB Ayden Calvillo, LB Jordan Palomin, LB JR Gonzalez, DL Jonathan Silva.

2025 notes: The Bears are coming off back-to-back district titles, but a third-straight will be a tough test after graduating key pieces on both sides of the ball. QB Rodriguez (600 yards, 5 TDs passing) will be tasked with running PSJA's spread offense and flashed in backup duty in 2024. WR Arroyo (19-304 yards, 2 TDs receiving) is the team's top returning receiver, but the Bears need multiple pass-catchers to step up in order to execute at a high level. PSJA will be young defensively led by junior DB Azuara (55 tackles, 3 INTs) and DL Cuevas (28 tackles, 6 TFL) and Maynez (50 tackles, 14 TFL, 5.5 sacks) up front. If the Bears can develop during non-district play, they'll have a real chance at a possible three-peat.

WESLACO PANTHERS

Coach: Roy Stroman. Lettermen R/L: 40/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-4 DI area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Chris Luna (5-5, 145, 4.7), WR Joseph Leal (5-10, 170, 4.7), RB David Garcia (5-7, 185, 4.7), DL Jacob Hinojosa (6-3, 230, 4.9), WR Saul Ramirez (5-8, 140, 4.5), TE Ethan Hoskins (6-1, 205, 4.8), OL Casey Parker (6-1, 225, 4.9), ATH JD Martinez.

2025 notes: Weslaco has been one of the area's top 6A programs over the past three seasons and will look to live up to the standard once again. ATH Luna (65-1,044 yards, 11 TDs receiving) is a versatile game-breaker on both sides of the ball and adds a scoring threat as a special teams returner. With a new QB taking over, expect the Panthers to get creative offensively in scheming up touches for Luna and WR Leal (28-713 yards, 8 TDs receiving). RB Garcia (812 yards, 8 TDs rushing) will be the focal point of Weslaco's rushing attack behind DL Parker and TE Hoskins. DL Hinojosa earned newcomer of the year honors a season ago and now steps into a leadership role for the defense.



Xavier MUHAMMAD
TE/DL
South Houston



Lederic KELLER
DE
Channelview



Kennedy BROWN
OL
Humble Kingwood



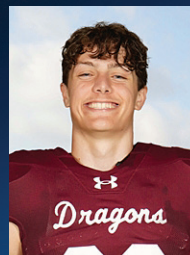
Sean CARTER
WR
Clear Springs



Jarell GARY
WR/RB
Round Rock
McNeil



Drew NORRELL
WR
Round Rock
Westwood



Dylan JAEGER
WR
Round Rock



Carter BUCK
DL
Lake Travis

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

DISTRICT 32-6A Preview

HANNA GOLDEN EAGLES

Coach: Mark Guess. Lettermen R/L: 17/18. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 1-9/0-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Dominic Moya (5-8, 160, 4.8), RB Esteban Rodriguez (5-9, 167, 4.7), OL Frank Coronado (5-11, 283, 5.5), DL Alik Garza (6-0, 245, 5.2), LB Joaquin Vasquez (5-8, 165, 4.9), RB Eduardo Chavez (5-6, 150, 4.9). Top juniors: QB Albert Chavez (5-10, 157, 5.0), DB Cesar Villa (5-7, 141, 4.9). Top sophomore: DE Benneth Bravo (6-1, 215, 4.9).

Other prospects: WR Alexander Chavez, DB Rudolpho Duran, DB Eli Renteria, WR/DB Austin Reyes, LB DeAngelo Moya, TE Kevin Salazar, OL Robert Garza, DL Charlie Barrientes.

2025 notes: Hanna hasn't made a playoff appearance in four years, but the Golden Eagles might have something cooking with 14 returning starters ready to fight for a playoff spot in the five-team district. RB Rodriguez (417 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and RB Chavez (364 yards, 2 TDs rushing) will form a 1-2 punch out of the backfield as new QB Chavez competes for a starting spot running the spread offense. Three-year starter OL Coronado is a tone-setter up front, while sophomores DE Bravo and WR Chavez look to become regular contributors. The Hanna defense has standouts at all three levels with DL Garza (42 tackles) up front, LB Vasquez (62 tackles, 4 TFL) in the middle and DB Moya (84 tackles 8 TFL) on the back end.

HARLINGEN CARDINALS

Coach: Manny Gomez. Lettermen R/L: 31/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 5-6 DII bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Noah Huerta (5-11, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Aiden Flores (5-11, 180, 4.7), LB Davian Renteria (5-10, 185, 4.6), QB Hassan Woolery (6-2, 185, 4.7), LB/DL Saul Cerda (5-11, 185, 4.7), DL Jerry Sanchez (5-8, 230, 5.0). Top juniors: WR/DB Aiden Cervantes (5-8, 150, 4.7), WR/DB Dayton Mireles (6-0, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/LB Luis Gonzalez (5-8, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Bubba Medrano, QB Gavin Cisneros, RB/LB Nathaniel Gonzales, DB Arturo Torres, WR Maddox Hernandez, DB Noah Gutierrez, DL Jayden Martinez, DL Jayden Secrest.

2025 notes: The Cardinals will have one of the Valley's best one-two punches in QB Woolery (150 yards passing; 349 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and RB Huerta (1,203 yards, 12 TDs rushing). Huerta is a three-year starter and premier back primed for a big senior year, while Woolery flashed signs of greatness before getting injured as a freshman last season. WR Hernandez (16-342 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and WR/DB Flores (12-170 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will help the Cardinals get going offensively after struggling down the stretch in 2024. LB Renteria (63 tackles, 13 TFL) and LB/DL Cerda (69 tackles, 19 TFL) combined for 10 sacks as sophomores last season and will be asked to do more as Harlingen's top returning tacklers.

LOS FRESNOS FALCONS

Coach: David Cantu. Lettermen R/L: 31/21. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 10-2 DI area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Robert Pineda (5-10, 160, 4.5), LB Juan Sanchez (5-9, 185, 4.7), DL Fernando Garcia (5-9, 248, 5.1), RB Diego Torres (5-9, 155, 4.5), WR/TE Ricardo Salazar (6-0, 160, 4.9), OL Julio Perez (5-9, 215, 5.2). Top juniors: ATH Ryan Prepejchal (5-9, 145, 4.6), RB Tyler Stachowiak (5-7, 145, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Lucky Perales, WR/TE Hector Resendiz, LB Joseph Reyna, QB/WR Evan McChesney, LB Pete Campos, DL Antonio Ramirez, DB Axel Retta, LB Hunter Bosada.

2025 notes: Los Fresnos won its first district title in 10 years last season and the return of four-year QB Pineda (1,720 yards, 22 TDs passing; 1,388 yards, 22 TDs rushing) makes the Falcons a favorite to repeat. The dual-threat playmaker leads a balanced

District 32-6A

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Robert Pineda, Los Fresnos

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Victor Rodriguez, San Benito

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Los Fresnos (3,294)
2. Brownsville Veterans Memorial (2,323)
3. Harlingen (2,660)
4. San Benito (2,815)
5. Brownsville Hanna (2,343)

offense that averaged 38 points a game in 2024. RBs Torres and Stachowiak will form a tandem at running back, while WR/TE Salazar, WR Perales and WR/TE Resendiz serve as Pineda's top targets. Defensively, the Falcons will be strongest with their front seven as LB Sanchez (92 tackles) and DL Garcia (58 tackles, 11 TFL) take charge. Last year's three-point area round loss has motivated Los Fresnos to break into the regional semifinals for the first time since 2017.

SAN BENITO GREYHOUNDS

Coach: Dan Gomez. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-9 DI bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Tyler Ruiz (4.6), DL Victor Rodriguez (4.7), RB Carter Green (4.5), RB Tommy Ramirez (4.6), ATH Kian Jones, OL Alex Munoz. Top juniors: DB Henry Quiroz (4.5), ATH Albert Gonzalez (5.6).

Other prospects: OL Luis Balli, DL Eddie Cuevas, DB Peter Buenrostro, OL Juan Abrego, DB Michael Escobedo, OL Cesar Grimaldo, LB Rolando Cortez, LB Luke Gonzalez.

2025 notes: San Benito is coming off a down season, but Gomez has the Greyhounds ready to rebound in 2025. ATH Ruiz (532 yards, 1 TD passing; 422 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 11-136 yards, 1 TD receiving) is a Swiss Army Knife that can be used in a variety of ways. RB Green and RB Ramirez had strong showings on the ground in limited work last season and will be relied upon to keep the chains moving, while ATH Gonzalez could see time at QB again. DL Rodriguez (75 tackles, 10 TFL, 5 sacks) and DL Cuevas (37 tackles) both return in the trenches while ATH Jones (35 tackles) and DB Quiroz (33 tackles) team up in the secondary to lead the San Benito defense.

VETERANS MEMORIAL CHARGERS

Coach: JC Ramirez. Lettermen R/L: 34/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 8-4 DII area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: FB Cesar Belmontes (5-10, 205, 4.9), RB Maddox Bond (5-7, 170, 4.8), OL Joe DeLeon (6-0, 245, 5.2), TE/DL Andrew Quintero (5-10, 210, 5.1), DL Daniel Selvera (6-1, 220, 4.8), DL Damien Rodriguez (5-11, 225, 5.1). Top juniors: LB Deme Gracia (5-8, 170, 4.8), RB/DB Erik Gallegos (6-0, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB Chris Alvear (5-10, 185, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Chargers have been on their best run in program history with two district titles and seven playoff wins over the last three years. They'll look to stay hot in 2025 as they roll out a relentless rushing attack and an experienced and disciplined defense. FB Belmontes (1,093 yards, 11 TDs rushing) is set to be the team's bellcow after breaking out in a big way last season. RB Bond (315 yards, 1 TD rushing) will also be leaned on heavily in the flexbone offense with OL DeLeon moving bodies up front. The Chargers are sound defensively and strongest shutting down the run with DL Selvera (66 tackles) and TE/DL Quintero (53 tackles, 7 TFL) and DL Rodriguez (56 tackles) manning the trenches.



Bryson THOMPSON
WR
San Antonio Johnson



Jordan CLAY
WR
San Antonio Madison



G'Ivori GRAHAM
RB
San Antonio Harlan



Christian DUPREE
WR
Schertz Clemens



Luke BELL
DB
New Braunfels Canyon



Braylon BLAIR
LB
San Antonio East Central



Hector BENAVIDES
DB
Laredo Alexander



Cesar BELMONTES
FB
Brownsville Vets Memorial

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

Class 6A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

6A DIVISION I

North Crowley Panthers

In the final moments in the locker room before the Class 6A Division I State Championship against Austin Westlake, North Crowley head coach Ray Gates put 16 bricks on the table.

One-by-one, he built them into a structure. Each brick symbolized one game of the season, the run through the District of Doom, a reminder that North Crowley didn't duck any smoke.

"We've got one more to go get, to make this journey complete," Gates said.

North Crowley quarterback Chris Jimerson Jr. had heard plenty of speeches in his four-year varsity career, but Gates had saved his best for last.

"Coach Gates always has a good speech before the game," Jimerson said. "It really motivates us and gives us that extra boost to go play harder."

It didn't take long for Gates to see if his speech sunk in. On the first offensive play, Jimerson threw a 75-yard touchdown to Quentin Gibson on a

flea-flicker. The rout was on.

Jimerson capped his illustrious North Crowley career with a state championship, piloting the offense to a 50-21 victory. North Crowley's 640 total yards were the second most in Class 6A State Championship history, and made even more impressive considering Westlake allowed 12 points per game all year.

North Crowley was simply too fast for the Westlake defense, bouncing rushing attempts that should've gone for one or two yards to the outside and sprinting for 15-yard chunks. Senior Cornelius Warren led the way with 23 carries for 217 yards and a score.

Westlake had an opportunity to tie the game early in the second quarter on a ten-yard run that pushed inside North Crowley's 10-yard line. But junior defensive tackle Derrick Gleason punched the ball out. A North Crowley score off the turnover gave them a 21-7 lead, and they never looked back. Gleason earned Defensive MVP honors.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — Coming off a run to the state semifinals, the Panthers started No. 5 in *Texas Football's* preseason 6A rankings.

TURNING POINT — In a year full of special moments, North Crowley's exacting revenge on Duncanville in the state semifinal stands alone.

TEAM MVP — Wide receiver Quentin Gibson, who went from relative unknown to Mr. Texas Football finalist with a jaw-dropping senior year.

BY THE NUMBERS — **36.3:** The Panthers' average margin of victory, the best mark in all of Class 6A.

North Crowley's Road to the Title (16-0)

North Crowley 29, Lancaster 21
North Crowley 57, DeSoto 51
North Crowley 49, Denton Guyer 28
North Crowley 70, Rockwall 17

North Crowley 56, Mansfield Legacy 0
North Crowley 66, Mans. Lake Ridge 7
North Crowley 62, Weatherford 6
North Crowley 67, Saginaw Boswell 0

North Crowley 59, Mansfield 11
North Crowley 65, Crowley 21
North Crowley 56, Byron Nelson 21
North Crowley 72, Odessa Permian 14

North Crowley 35, Coppell 24
North Crowley 35, Allen 7
North Crowley 36, Duncanville 34
North Crowley 50, Austin Westlake 21

6A DIVISION II

Austin Vandegrift

As long as Drew Sanders is the head coach, Vandegrift's football program will never wear 'Vipers' across their chests, no matter how cool the mascot is. They play for their school's namesake, a Leander ISD grad who lost his life overseas.

"Matthew Vandegrift sacrificed his life for his country on April 21, 2008," Sanders said. "From there, the entire structure of our thought process begins."

Last year, Vandegrift went 10-0 in the regular season and lost for the first time in program history in the first round of the playoffs. Sanders said many thought they were doomed to repeat that after losing multiple Division I signees. But over the offseason, the coaches instilled in the 2024 team that great things could be accomplished when no one gets the credit. They instilled sacrifice. They got back to their namesake.

"It was a really long offseason," senior defensive back Aidan Jones said. "That let us go from individual to group, group to team, team to family."

The Vipers' 24-17 victory over Southlake

Carroll in the Class 6A Division II state championship embodied that transformation

Jones and Defensive MVP Scott Buchanan helped hold Southlake Carroll to a season-low 97 yards despite passing 39 times.

But Southlake was forced to throw so often because it couldn't get past nose guard Ian Witt and Arizona State signee Daeshon Morgan in the run game. Southlake's backfield, without Baylor commit Davis Penn and USC signee Riley Wormley due to injury, managed just 53 rushing yards and only attempted four runs in the first half. Once Vandegrift knew Southlake had to throw, it was able to intercept Carroll twice.

Offensive MVP Miles Teodecki started the game with 11-consecutive completions, finding senior wide receiver George Farley for an 84-yard touchdown on a perfectly placed go-route to jump start the offense.

Once Vandegrift jumped out to the lead, the Vipers leaned on Carroll with senior running back Brendan Fournier. Fournier's 28 carries for 160 yards more than tripled Southlake's entire ground output.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — Vandegrift ranked No. 24 in *Texas Football's* preseason 6A rankings after a promising 2023 season ended in playoff disappointment.

TURNING POINT — Outslugging high-powered Cibola Steele in the regional semifinals proved the Vipers could hang with anyone.

TEAM MVP — Quarterback Miles Teodecki, who stepped into the starting role and took the Vandegrift attack to new heights.

BY THE NUMBERS — **12:** The number of games in which the Vipers' defense held their opponent under 20 points.

Vandegrift's Road to the Title (15-1)

Vandegrift 31, Dripping Springs 14
Cedar Park 49, Vandegrift 46 (20T)
Vandegrift 35, Stony Point 28
Vandegrift 38, Vista Ridge 7

Vandegrift 28, McNeil 0
Vandegrift 47, Cedar Ridge 0
Vandegrift 56, Manor 6
Vandegrift 38, Hutto 13

Vandegrift 49, Westwood 0
Vandegrift 35, Round Rock 6
Vandegrift 56, Austin High 14
Vandegrift 51, San Antonio Sotomayor 0

Vandegrift 49, Cibola Steele 35
Vandegrift 47, San Antonio Harlan 14
Vandegrift 34, Summer Creek 31
Vandegrift 24, Southlake Carroll 17

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 6A

Class 6A SEASON IN REVIEW

2024 TSWA CLASS 6A ALL-STATE TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Keelon Russell, Duncanville

DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR: Ja'Brelle Asberry, North Crowley;

Brandon Jones, Summer Creek

COACH OF THE YEAR: Ray Gates, North Crowley

First-Team Offense

QB Keelon Russell, Duncanville
RB John Hebert, Houston Strake Jesuit
RB Cornelius Warren III, North Crowley
RB Kelvin Washington, Longview
FB Zane Smith, Fulshear
FB Joshua Smith, Katy
WR Quentin Gibson, North Crowley
WR Brock Boyd, Southlake Carroll
WR Dakorien Moore, Duncanville
TE Josiah Thomas, Lake Travis
OG Henry Fenuku, North Crowley
OG Jared Risinger, Austin Westlake
OT Michael Fasusi, Lewisville
OT Jonte Newman, Bridgeland
OC Bennett Wilkin, Austin Westlake
AP Tory Blaylock, Humble Atascocita
PK Blake Letourneau, Plano East

First-Team Defense

DL Keylan Abrams, DeSoto
DL Jake Van Dorselaer, Southlake Carroll
DL Daeshon Morgan, Vandegrift
DL Tobi Haastруп, Mayde Creek
LB Ja'Brelle Asberry, North Crowley
LB Elijah Bo Barnes, Dallas Skyline
LB Nehemiah Borner, Duncanville
LB Kason Brooks, Longview
DB Draden Fullbright, North Crowley
DB Brandon Jones, Summer Creek
DB Parker Johnson, Houston Stratford
DB George Jones III, Austin Westlake
P Ethan Guillen, Waxahachie
UT Kade Phillips, Fort Bend Hightower
KR Dontreal Fisher, Hightower

Second-Team Offense

QB Chris Jimerson Jr., North Crowley
RB Elijah McCoy, Midland
RB Deondrae "Tiger" Riden Jr., DeSoto
RB Gavin Black, Odessa Permian
RB Marquez Davis, Kingwood
FB Bryce Evans, Pasadena Dobie
WR Jermaine Bishop, Willis
WR Leyton Stone, Frenship
TE Wyatt Herbel, Cy-Fair
OG Ian Mayes, Arlington Bowie
OG Trent Wilson, Southlake Carroll
OT Tyler Thomas, Dickinson
OT Ryan Fodje, Bridgeland
OT Colter Alberding, Allen
OT Michael Collins, Waco Midway
OC Byron Nelson, Katy
AP Andrew Casagrande, Richardson Pearce
PK Cameron Allen, Hebron

Second-Team Defense

DL Chadron Woodfork, Summer Creek
DL Gus Cordova, Lake Travis
DL Ian Witt, Vandegrift
DL Solza McCullough, San Antonio Brennan
LB Riley Pettijohn, McKinney
LB Charles Ross, North Shore
LB Adam Scott, Vandegrift
LB Elliott Schaper, Austin Westlake
LB Sean DeVault, Sachse
DB Marcus Coleman, Klein Cain
DB Tyren Polley, Duncanville
DB Davis Kinney, Fort Bend Travis
DB Dominic Soto, El Paso Eastlake
P Noah Lopez, Round Rock Stony Point
UT Cortland Guillory, Klein Oak
KR Royal Capell, Cibolo Steele



Photo Credit: John Hamilton

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 6A PLAYOFF RESULTS

DIVISION I

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Odessa Permian 41, El Paso Eastlake 21; North Crowley 56, Trophy Club Nelson 21; Coppell 35, Prosper 27; Lake Highlands 27, South Grand Prairie 0; Midland Legacy 56, El Paso Franklin 14; Euless Trinity 42, Mansfield 7; Allen 17, Lewisville 3; Richardson 28, Haltom 19; Region II: Rockwall 50, Sachse 17; Duncanville 49, Temple 7; The Woodlands 42, Aldine Nimitz 20; Cypress Ranch 27, Klein Cain 17; North Forney 62, Wylie 20; Waxahachie 44, Waco Midway 7; Conroe 34, Aldine Davis 7; Bridgeland 24, Klein Oak 17; Region III: Cypress Falls 59, Houston Bellaire 7; Katy 65, Alief Elsik 13; Fort Bend Ridge Point 49, Pasadena Dobie 16; Galena Park North Shore 56, Deer Park 13; Houston Lamar 23, Cy-Fair 19; Fulshear 66, Katy Paetow 47; Pearland 38, Fort Bend Travis 0; Humble Atascocita 50, Dickinson 45; Region IV: Lake Travis 41, Round Rock 14; San Antonio Johnson 49, San Antonio Taft 7; San Antonio East Central 49; Laredo United South 28; Weslaco 28, San Benito 0; Austin Westlake 46, Cedar Park Vista Ridge 17; San Antonio Brennan 28, San Antonio Reagan 7; Buda Johnson 41, Laredo United 14; Los Fresnos 42, Edinburg Economedes 13. AREA – Region I: North Crowley 72, Odessa Permian 14; Coppell 38, Lake Highlands 10; Euless Trinity 52, Midland Legacy 22; Allen 59, Richardson 6; Region II: Duncanville 56, Rockwall 14; The Woodlands 38, Cypress Ranch 21; Waxahachie 32, North Forney 12; Bridgeland 38, Conroe 22; Region III: Katy 49, Cypress Falls 20; Galena Park North Shore 44, Fort Bend Ridge Point 28; Fulshear 54, Houston Lamar 48; Humble Atascocita 28, Pearland 17; Region IV: Lake Travis 55, San Antonio Johnson 27; San Antonio East Central 35, Weslaco 28; Austin Westlake 24, San Antonio Brennan 7; Buda Johnson 23, Los Fresnos 20. REGIONAL SEMIS – Region I: North Crowley 35, Coppell 24; Allen 22, Euless Trinity 21; Region II: Duncanville 42, The Woodlands 20; Bridgeland 24, Waxahachie 19; Region III: Galena Park North Shore 42, Katy 28; Humble Atascocita 47, Fulshear 42; Region IV: Lake Travis 52, San Antonio East Central 7; Austin Westlake 52, Buda Johnson 14. REGIONAL FINALS – Region I: North Crowley 35, Allen 7; Region II: Duncanville 31, Bridgeland 13; Region III: Galena Park North Shore 49, Humble Atascocita 21; Region IV: Austin Westlake 24, Lake Travis 17. STATE SEMIFINALS – North Crowley 36, Duncanville 34; Austin Westlake 35, Galena Park North Shore 10. STATE FINAL – North Crowley 50, Austin Westlake 21.

DIVISION II

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Midland 42, El Paso Pebble Hills 14; Crowley 51, Justin Northwest 14; Denton Guyer 52, McKinney 30; Richardson Pearce 36, Arlington 28; Wolfforth Frenship 77, El Paso Montwood 21; Southlake Carroll 69, Mansfield Legacy 7; Lewisville Hebron 48, Prosper Rock Hill 16; Arlington Bowie 56, Dallas Jesuit 42; Region II: Wylie East 35, Forney 28; DeSoto 63, Killeen Shoemaker 6; Willis 63, Spring 16; Tomball 35, Cypress Springs 25; Longview 23, Garland Naaman Forest 13; Lancaster 40, Killeen Harker Heights 35; The Woodlands College Park 16, Spring Westfield 13; Klein Collins 32, Cypress Woods 29; Region III: Houston Stratford 58, Houston Westside 26; Katy Jordan 22, Richmond Foster 14; Manvel 23, Fort Bend Hightower 15; Humble Summer Creek 66, Clear Falls 7; Houston Heights 42, Houston Memorial 21; Houston Strake Jesuit 56, Katy Tompkins 36; Fort Bend Elkins 31, Alvin Shadow Creek 28; Humble Kingwood 34, Clear Springs 33; Region IV: Austin Vandegrift 56, Austin High 14; San Antonio Sotomayor 23, San Antonio Churchill 19; Cibolo Steele 56, Laredo Alexander 14; PSJA 55, Harlingen 28; Dripping Springs 49, Round Rock McNeil 14; San Antonio Harlan 41, San Antonio Clark 23, New Braunfels Canyon 31, Medina Valley 14; Brownsville Veterans Memorial 47, Edinburg 9. AREA – Region I: Crowley 26, Midland 21; Denton Guyer 45, Richardson Pearce 28; Southlake Carroll 49, Wolfforth Frenship 42; Lewisville Hebron 51, Arlington Bowie 35; Region II: DeSoto 51, Wylie East 17; Willis 28, Tomball 24; Longview 35, Lancaster 28; Klein Collins 70, The Woodlands College Park 21; Region III: Katy Jordan 31, Houston Stratford 10; Humble Summer Creek 49, Manvel 7; Houston Strake Jesuit 36; Houston Heights 15; Humble Kingwood 41, Fort Bend Elkins 17; Region IV: Austin Vandegrift 51, San Antonio Sotomayor 0; Cibolo Steele 63, PSJA 12; San Antonio Harlan 55, Dripping Springs 24; New Braunfels Canyon 38, Brownsville Veterans Memorial 35. REGIONAL SEMIS – Region I: Denton Guyer 44, Crowley 7; Southlake Carroll 42, Lewisville Hebron 37; Region II: DeSoto 55, Willis 35; Longview 42, Klein Collins 28; Region III: Humble Summer Creek 54, Katy Jordan 20; Humble Kingwood 27, Houston Strake Jesuit 16; Region IV: Austin Vandegrift 49, Cibolo Steele 35; San Antonio Harlan 39, New Braunfels Canyon 36. REGIONAL FINALS – Region I: Southlake Carroll 56, Denton Guyer 45; Region II: Longview 50, DeSoto 14; Region III: Humble Summer Creek 51, Humble Kingwood 7; Region IV: Austin Vandegrift 47, San Antonio Harlan 14. STATE SEMIFINALS – Southlake Carroll 20, Longview 17; Austin Vandegrift 34, Humble Kingwood 31. STATE FINAL – Austin Vandegrift 24, Southlake Carroll 17.



CLASS 5A

El Paso Jefferson quarterback Davion Arnette escapes a tackle during the Silver Foxes' non-district game against El Paso Bowie at the Sun Bowl. Hopes are high for "La Jeff" thanks in part to Arnette's return — he racked up 101 tackles on defense and scored five total touchdowns as a sophomore.

Photo by Reno Del Toro

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HIGH SCHOOL

Class 5A Cover Boy **HUDSON WOODS**

ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT SMITHSON VALLEY STAR

BY GREG TEPPER

Hudson Woods did not win the 200 meters at the Don Shelton Relays in Buda in late March. He clocked a 24.27 in that race, good enough for fifth place, about a second off the pace of Round Rock Westwood's Colten Case, who took home the gold.

But picture the starting line for a moment. There's Colten Case in Lane 1, standing about 5-11 and 170 pounds, according to records. And next to him is Hudson Woods — all 6-foot-3 and 225 pounds of him.

"From what I've seen, I'm the only person who looks like me out there," Woods said with a laugh.

Woods may not look like your everyday sprinter, but that's never stopped him — he runs the 100, the 200 and the 4x200-meter relay for Smithson Valley. Call it a habit.

"I used to play wide receiver, and that's what I thought I was going to play at the next level," Woods said. "Then freshman year, I got moved up to play end. I was 160 pounds my freshman year. I realized I had to gain a lot of weight, so I just focused on that for two straight years...and I was able to keep my speed."

That trick — gaining 70 pounds while maintaining his fleet feet — has turned Woods into one of the most dangerous defenders in all of Texas high school football. As a junior in 2024, Woods notched 66 tackles, 20 tackles for loss and 13 sacks in helping to guide Smithson Valley to its long-elusive first state championship.

Not bad for a guy playing hurt.

"I fractured my wrist in the second game of the season," Woods confessed. "I didn't get it checked out because I knew I'd be taken out. I waited until after the season to get the X-ray."

It's emblematic of a toughness that's defined Woods his entire career, dating back to his freshman season. That's when he fractured his back in two places and suffered from three bulging discs — "pretty much the worst injury I think you could get," he recalls — which kept him out for nine months.

"But that was the biggest thing that made me who I am, just focusing on the character development," Woods said. "I learned so much during that time."

Larry Hill is sure glad to have him. The legendary Smithson Valley coach has seen a lot of great defenders during his three-plus decades at the helm, and he knows how special Woods is.

"There's a lot of guys who are fast or strong,

but there's an innate ability — game instincts — and he seems to have that," Hill said. "He's just got a knack of getting on the shoulder of an offensive tackle and using his speed and strength."

The feeling of respect is mutual between coach and player: Woods played an integral role in getting Hill his first state championship, the only item missing from a legendary résumé.

"After years of heartbreak, helping bring that title home — and doing it for Coach Hill — was unreal," Woods said. "It meant everything."

If you think Woods sounds wise beyond his years, you're not alone — colleges have noticed as well, garnering him offers from all across the nation, including high-end academic institutions like Northwestern.

For now, though, Woods is focused on taking the next step in his development, and getting the Rangers another state championship. His wrist injury changed his playing style, he said, and part of his offseason plan is breaking less-than-ideal technical habits.

"Right now my biggest focus is perfecting my craft, getting my muscle memory broken so I can get back to the good technique I used to have," Woods said.

It's a self-awareness and a passion that isn't lost on his Hall of Fame coach.

"He loves football," Hill said. "He puts in time training for football away from here — not just doing what he's told. He's got one motivation only: I want to get faster. I want to improve."

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Hudson WOODS

Hudson Woods emerged as one of the state's most disruptive defenders in 2024, helping deliver Smithson Valley its long-awaited first state title.

Photo by John Hamilton

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

Class 5A STATE RANKINGS

DIVISION I

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 ALEDO The Bearcats' line play should be the best in all of 5A	12-2	6/7
2.	 SMITHSON VALLEY After a carthartic title run, Rangers' defense is back in a big way	14-2	2/8
3.	 DENTON RYAN The Raiders' defensive front is a game-wrecking unit	13-2	7/5
4.	 HIGHLAND PARK The return of QB Buck Randall has the Scots thinking title	14-2	5/1
5.	 FRISCO LONE STAR Plenty of playmakers return from the regional finalist squad	12-2	6/5
6.	 LA PORTE No surprise this time: the Bulldogs are legit	10-4	7/7
7.	 ANGLETON Wildcats' close-game magic belies a gutty ballclub	13-2	8/4
8.	 COLLEGE STATION The Cougars need a QB, but otherwise, they're stacked	11-2	5/4
9.	 ABILENE The Eagles check every box for a true contender	8-4	6/9
10.	 A&M CONSOLIDATED A breakout '24 season could make way for a bigger '25	12-1	7/5
11.	 SAN ANTONIO PIEPER Don't be fooled: the Warriors are no flash in the pan	11-1	6/6
12.	 PFLUGERVILLE WEISS The talent is there; will the late coaching change impact them?	8-3	7/6
13.	 MIDLOTHIAN Explosive athletes abound, but can they find a run game?	10-3	6/6
14.	 RICHLAND Headliners may have graduated, but the cupboard ain't bare	10-3	7/5
15.	 LUFKIN New coach Carl Abseck brings state title pedigree	10-2	5/5
16.	 GEORGETOWN The Eagles have the playmakers, but need defensive growth	10-2	7/2
17.	 PORT ARTHUR MEMORIAL The Titans will definitely score; defense is the question	8-4	7/5
18.	 PSJA NORTH The Raiders have 45 wins over the last four years	10-2	10/7
19.	 WEST MESQUITE Buy stock now — Stephen Jackson's Wranglers are the real deal	11-1	8/7
20.	 CC VETERANS MEMORIAL This is young squad, but the upside is tremendous	9-3	3/4
21.	 FRISCO REEDY The Lions graduated heavy; is it rebuild or reload?	10-3	4/3
22.	 AMARILLO The pass-catch combo of Jett Lopez and Oliver Parsons is elite	6-5	8/7
23.	 NEW BRAUNFELS Do you believe in Unicorns? You should start now	9-4	6/4
24.	 RED OAK If the offensive line develops, the Hawks' offense will soar	7-5	5/8
25.	 AMARILLO TASCOSA Three-year starting QB Colytn Fulton gives them an edge	7-6	6/5

DIVISION II

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 RICHMOND RANDLE The Lions have more than enough to be a back-to-back threat	16-0	6/4
2.	 SOUTH OAK CLIFF Four straight title games for SOC; can they find a QB?	13-3	8/6
3.	 BRENNHAM These Cubs are all grown up now, and a true title threat	11-2	9/8
4.	 ARGYLE Moving up to Class 5A is hard? The Eagles haven't noticed	13-2	7/6
5.	 IOWA COLONY Points, points, points — the Pioneers' offense will fly	12-2	7/5
6.	 TEXAS HIGH Tradarian Ball gives the Tigers a blue-chip superstar	12-1	6/6
7.	 FORT BEND MARSHALL Can the Buffaloes return to the top of Region III?	10-3	6/5
8.	 HUNTSVILLE New coach Todd Moebes inherits a team ready for its close-up	8-4	5/5
9.	 PNG Jeff Joseph is 40-6 in three years at the Indians' helm	12-2	5/5
10.	 ANNA Ziondre Williams' special TXHSFB story has one more chapter	9-4	8/8
11.	 LOVEJOY The Leopards are young, but Todd Dodge is Todd Dodge	10-4	3/5
12.	 CORPUS CHRISTI MILLER Playmakers abound for the Bucs; they're a Region IV threat	11-3	6/6
13.	 ALAMO HEIGHTS Graduation hammered the Mules; can they reload?	12-1	3/3
14.	 BOERNE It'll be a new-look Greyhounds, including a new coach and QB	11-4	5/4
15.	 LIBERTY HILL This will stun you, but the Panthers' run game will be great	9-3	7/7
16.	 PROSPER WALNUT GROVE Last year's breakout squad has legit staying power	11-2	6/5
17.	 MIDLOTHIAN HERITAGE The defensive front will be fierce, but what about the offense?	8-4	5/6
18.	 BASTROP The core here is extremely sound; they're a sleeper for state	9-3	4/7
19.	 MELISSA Cardinals looking for bounceback after a disappointing '24	6-4	3/9
20.	 COLLEYVILLE HERITAGE The Panthers' secondary must grow, but if it does...	8-3	8/5
21.	 VICTORIA WEST The first 10-win season since 2015 is just the start	10-3	8/7
22.	 GREGORY-PORTLAND Coaches tell DCTF that this is their sleeper in Region IV	5-6	5/5
23.	 LUBBOCK-COOPER The No. 1s can hang with anyone, but depth is a concern	8-4	6/5
24.	 MARSHALL Jason Hammett dazzled in his first season as head coach	10-3	5/5
25.	 MANSFIELD TIMBERVIEW New coach Jacody Coleman is a great fit for the Wolves	6-5	4/5

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

Class 5A **PREVIEW**

WHO'S NEXT TO CRASH THE STATE'S WILDEST PARTY?

BY GREG TEPPER

Class 5A sure has a way of keeping us humble.

We at *Texas Football* like to think of ourselves as Texas high school football experts — or at least keen observers — but no classification has bedeviled us quite like this one. That includes last season, which gave us something old (Smithson Valley's long-awaited first state championship in Division I) and something new (third-year varsity program Richmond Randle's meteoric run to the Division II crown).

What twists and turns does Class 5A hold this year? Heck if we know — but we know it'll be fun.

Division I feels uniquely wide open this season, but when in doubt, go with Aledo. The Bearcats start the year at No. 1 and are our pick to bring home a historic 13th state championship, thanks in large part to playmakers like receiver Kaydon Finley and linebacker Chase Wilburn. And history is on their side: Aledo hasn't missed consecutive title games since 2007–08.

Aledo leads the charge in Region I, but a familiar foe looms in Denton Ryan, which finally dethroned the Bearcats in last year's regional final. The Raiders bring back quarterback Quin Henigan to lead a high-powered offense. Out west, Abilene welcomes back 15 starters, including do-it-all star Brayden Henry.

Region II is a bit of a Rorschach test — what you see may say more about you than about the teams themselves. Value stability and consistency? Then you'll lean toward Highland Park, fresh off a title game run with breakout quarterback Buck Randall returning, or Frisco Lone Star, led by electric playmaker Davian Groce. Willing to dream on a team? Consider Midlothian, which has athletes at seemingly every position, or Georgetown, where running back Jett Walker is your next favorite player. Feeling especially bold? Hitch your wagon to West Mesquite, where coach Stephen Jackson has the arrow pointing all the way up.

There's no deeper region than Region III, which boasts seven teams ranked in the Top 17 to start the year and features three of the best district races in Texas. Reigning regional champ Angleton will duke it out with La Porte in District 11; College Station, A&M Consolidated, and Pflugerville Weiss are neck-and-neck in District 12; and new-look Lufkin — now under coach Carl Abseck — will try to fend off Port Arthur Memorial and Barbers Hill, Abseck's former school.

Smithson Valley coach Larry Hill finally captured that elusive state championship, and his Rangers look poised to make a run at a repeat — especially with monster defender Hudson Woods

anchoring a traditionally stout defense. They enter the year as clear Region IV favorites, but their biggest threats will come from both near — District 13 bunkmate San Antonio Pieper — and far — PSJA North, perhaps the Rio Grande Valley's top team.

Richmond Randle is the latest in a growing list of nascent Houston-area programs to win a state title — Katy Paetow, Shadow Creek, and Randle's Lamar Consolidated ISD sibling George Ranch spring to mind. But Randle could be different in one key way: they might do it again. The Lions open at No. 1 in the Division II rankings, with megastar running back Landen Williams-Callis leading what should be a differently staffed yet similarly dangerous squad.

The power center of Region I lies in the wild and woolly District 4, where Anna, Lovejoy, Prosper Walnut Grove, and Melissa all begin the year in the Top 20. But it's Argyle — featuring a must-see passing attack with quarterback Maguire Gasperson and receiver Julian Caldwell — that feels like the final boss.

All the talk heading into 2024 centers on Region II and a potential clash between geographically diverse titans South Oak Cliff and Port

Neches-Groves. And while SOC — fresh off its fourth consecutive state championship appearance, tied for third-most in UIL history — should be favored again thanks to its electrifying “Death Row” defense, the road won't be easy. They'll face threats from electric playmaker Tradarian Ball at Texas High, a new-look Huntsville squad, and — of course — the always-dangerous PNG.

Randle's title defense will begin in Region III, and specifically in its loaded District 9, which features a hungry Iowa Colony team looking for another shot at the champs, as well as perennial power Fort Bend Marshall. But a major threat looms just outside: Brenham, which returns 17 starters from a regional semifinalist squad, including jaw-dropping running back Jakoby Dixon.

Change is the common denominator in Region IV, where nearly every contender is undergoing some form of transition. Reigning regional champ Boerne begins a new chapter under head coach Brett Sawyer. Corpus Christi Miller must find a successor to prolific quarterback Trevor Long. And Alamo Heights will reload after graduating one of its most talented senior classes in recent memory.

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Jett WALKER

The Georgetown running back put together an electrifying junior year and leads the Eagles' charge into a difficult Region II of 5A Division I.

Photo by Doug Holleman

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CLASS 5A



Jakoby Dixon | BRENHAM RB

Photo Credit: Chance Wood



Tiki Hola | BASTROP DL

Photo Credit: Victor Truitt

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 5A? Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB



El Paso El Dorado RB **RYAN ESTRADA** led all of Class 5A in rushing last season, going for 2,422 yards and 32 touchdowns and averaging more than 13.5 yards per carry.

Photo Credit: Reno Del Toro



Prosper Walnut Grove QB **HAYES HACKNEY** threw for 3,671 yards and 40 touchdowns on 69 percent passing last season...as a freshman!

Photo Credit: Chris Harmon

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 5A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

QB Jake Fette, El Paso Del Valle
RB Jakoby Dixon, Brenham
RB Landen Williams-Callis, Richmond Randle
WR Kaydon Finley, Aledo
WR Aljour Miles II, Kaufman
TE Jaivion Martin, Pflugerville
OL Payton Williams, Aledo
OL Jake Hayman, La Porte
OL Noah Best, Midlothian
OL Derek Garcia, PSJA North
OL Jacob Slaughter, Cedar Park
UTL Tradarian Ball, Texas High
K Trent Amaya, Smithson Valley

Defense

DL Tiki Hola, Bastrop
DL Hudson Woods, Smithson Valley
DL Uziah Warmate, Denton Ryan
LB Cole Flanigan, College Station
LB Jamarion Phillips, South Oak Cliff
LB Landon Jones, Marshall
LB Tank King, Port Arthur Memorial
DB Jordan Deck, Frisco Lone Star
DB Isaiah Williams, Fort Bend Marshall
DB Tayvian Peoples-Cantu, Victoria West
DB Israel Campos, Edcouch-Elsa
RET Davian Groce, Frisco Lone Star
P Daniel Willis, Crosby



Brian Randle | RICHMOND RANDLE

Photo Credit: Andy Tolbert

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 5A, the top four teams in each district make the playoffs. They are then placed in their respective bracket, either Division I or Division II.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: Aledo over Denton Ryan
Region II: Highland Park over Frisco Lone Star
Region III: La Porte over Angleton
Region IV: Smithson Valley over San Antonio Pieper

DIVISION II

Region I: Argyle over Lovejoy
Region II: South Oak Cliff over Texas High
Region III: Richmond Randle over Iowa Colony
Region IV: Corpus Christi Miller over Boerne

STATE CHAMP: ALEDO

The Bearcats' spectacular offense will overpower teams, but it's the defense that leads them to historic title No. 13.

STATE CHAMP: RICHMOND RANDLE

On the strength of an explosive attack and a newfound swagger, the Lions make it back-to-back championships.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 14-5A DII

This San Antonio/Laredo/Eagle Pass district produced high drama down the stretch last year, and we expect '25 will be no different.

DISTRICT 8-5A DII

Between Huntsville, PNG, Montgomery, Nederland and Lake Creek (plus any surprises), there's not enough playoff spots.

DISTRICT 15-5A DII

A Valley-centric five-team district, which means every game matters immensely — and every game figures to be close.

Class 5A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

LUBBOCK MONTEREY

This is a big, physical squad that's going mash teams up front; you'd better be ready for the Plainsmen.

EL PASO DEL VALLE

Jake Fette — one of the state's best quarterbacks — gives the Conquistadores a shot in every game.

CRANDALL

The Pirates are coming off their first 10-win season since 2001, and hungry for more.

CEDAR PARK

Remember them? After a couple of relative down years, the Timberwolves are ready to pounce.

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DISTRICT 1-5A DI Preview

EL PASO AMERICAS TRAIL BLAZERS

Coach: Noe Robles. Lettermen R/L: 27/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 3-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Cam'Ron Johnson (5-9, 190, 4.7), DB Isaiah Alferéz (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB Joaquin Hernandez (5-8, 180, 4.6), WR Maurice Edwards (5-7, 160, 4.6), OL Evan Harris (6-2, 280), OL Omar Velez (6-0, 285). Top juniors: DB Liam Adrian Esquivel (5-10, 170, 4.8), DB Luke Franco (5-10, 180, 4.9). Top sophomore: DL Jeremy Favela (5-9, 200).

Other prospects: QB Emiliano Gonzalez, LB Daniel Cunningham.

2025 notes: The Trail Blazers will look to improve on last year's three-win season as Robles welcomes back seven starters on both sides of the ball. Americas employs a spread offensive attack, but they'll be run heavy in 2025 with the return of RB Johnson (1,476 yards, 16 TDs rushing) and RB Hernandez (259 yards, 2 TDs rushing). When AHS decides to go to the air, speedy junior WR Edwards (10-213, 4 TDs receiving; 108 yards, 1 TD rushing) will be the primary target. DB Alferéz (46 tackles, 1 sack, 5 INTs) is a playmaker in the secondary who is capable of covering the entire field. The biggest questions heading into fall camp will be inexperience at QB and finding a new kicker and punter.

BEL AIR HIGHLANDERS

Coach: Gary Recoder. Lettermen R/L: 33/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 0-11 bi-district finalist/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Alan Castro (5-10, 245), OL Danteh Garnica (6-2, 245), QB Angel Dominguez (6-2, 190, 4.8), RB Bernie Martinez (5-9, 170, 4.7), LB Derreck Gutierrez (6-0, 175, 4.8), RB Eddie Reyes (5-8, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: WR/DB Chris Garza (5-11, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Jorge Quinones (6-2, 220). Top sophomore: WR/DB Marquette Beard (5-9, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Joel Zuniga, WR/DB Jacob Valdez-Elizondo, OL/DL Brandon Gonzalez, LB Anthony Martinez, LB Cristian Balboa, LB Jayden Lopez.

2025 notes: Bel Air took its fair share of lumps in 2024 in Recoder's first season, but with the vast majority of the team returning, the Highlanders look to be much-improved this year. It starts up front where Bel Air will be a much more mature football team with the return of OLs Castro and Garnica leading the way. QB Dominguez is ready to have a big junior season and has two capable ball carriers in senior RB Reyes and sophomore Martinez. Sophomore LB Gutierrez will be a leader on the defense, while two-way juniors WR/DB Garza and OL/DL Quinones should be key to the defensive improvement. Coach Recoder says even though he has 33 lettermen returning, his team is still relatively young across the board but is "young with experience."

EL PASO EL DORADO AZTECS

Coach: Frank Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 21/17. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 10-1 bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

District 1-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Ryan Estrada, El Paso El Dorado

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Isaiah Alferéz, El Paso Americas

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. El Paso El Dorado (2,217)
2. El Paso Americas (2,195)
3. El Paso Parkland (1,610)
4. El Paso Bel Air (1,904)

Players to watch: RB Ryan Estrada (6-0, 195, 4.4), ATH Adrian Olivas (5-8, 180, 4.7), WR/DB JaDarius Sanders (6-3, 185, 4.5), DB Matthew Pinto (5-9, 155, 4.5), OL/DL Tanner Ragan (6-3, 270), QB Brycen Booth (6-2, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/DL Ryan Sanchez (6-3, 270), OL/DL Jose Bustamante (5-10, 245). Top sophomore: TE/DE Noah Emelife (6-4, 220, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB Nick Lopez, DB Evan Corral, DB Andrew Estrada, WR/DB Marven Pineda, SS Zavier Mathis, DE Moises Lopez, WR/DB Rahsan Bryant.

2025 notes: El Dorado rolled through the regular season at 10-0, but suffered a first-round playoff defeat, which no doubt left a bad taste for the Aztecs this offseason. RB Estrada (2,422 yards, 34 TDs rushing) is among the state's top playmakers; he's a four-year starter who has the entire package as a RB. WR/DB Sanders (33-697 yards, 10 TDs receiving) is a big play weapon on the outside for junior QB Booth (569 yards, 8 TDs passing; 221 yards, 3 TDs rushing). The key for El Dorado once they get outside of the El Paso area will be improving on the defensive side of the ball. ATH Olivas (77 tackles, 7 TFL, 2 sacks) and DB Pinto (66 tackles, 3 INTs) will lead the back seven, but the Aztecs will only go as far as their defensive line takes them in November.

PARKLAND MATADORS

Coach: Leigh McWhorter. Lettermen R/L: 20/26. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Jesse Molina (5-8, 160), ATH Jordan Reese (5-11, 170), LB Julian Gomez (5-11, 180), OL Kaleb Pasillas (6-2, 270), OL Fernie Alcala (6-1, 275), OL Gael Villalobos (6-1, 275). Top juniors: ATH Carter Perez (5-8, 175), ATH Krystian Martinez (5-8, 170).

Other prospects: OL James French, DE Angelo Ontiveros, DT Steven Daly.

2025 notes: The Matadors return 13 starters from a year ago and McWhorter says returning experience combined with a productive offseason should result in improvement. QB Molina (1,484 yards, 14 TDs passing) returns to lead the PHS spread offense, while ATH Reese (46-731, 7 TDs receiving; 168 yards, 1 TD rushing) is back as a key weapon on the outside. The rest of the skill position group will be very young, according to the coaching staff. LB Gomez (82 tackles) is the ring-leader of the defense, while junior ATHs Perez and Martinez could emerge as candidates to step in and fill roles in the secondary, which will have a lot of new faces. McWhorter says his offensive line is a strength going into fall camp.



Ryan ESTRADA
RB
El Paso El Dorado



Brayden HENRY
QB/ATH
Abilene



Jett LOPEZ
QB
Amarillo



Xavier VARGAS
RB/DB
Amarillo Caprock



Willie CRAIN
DB
Lubbock Coronado



Kaydon FINLEY
WR
Aledo



Jashaun THOMAS
QB
Fort Worth Paschal



Najae NICHOLSON
LB
Saginaw

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DISTRICT 2-5A DI Preview

ABILENE EAGLES

Coach: Mike Fullen. Lettermen R/L: 37/27. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/ATH Brayden Henry (5-9, 165, 4.4), QB Tristan Beal (6-0, 175, 4.6), RB Ethan Joyner (5-8, 160, 4.6), LB Skyler Faimoa (6-1, 215, 4.6), OL Jim Boima (6-0, 235, 4.8), LB Trae Shaw (5-8, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Levon Koonce (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR/DB M'Aujehl Aboso (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: DB Jordan Brown (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Aamanni Strahan, DL Jayden Starks, DB Xavier De La Cruz, RB/LB Symanni Strahan, WR/DB Stephen Wright, OL Ryhan Esparza, OL Efrain Hernandez, K Naim Segura.

2025 notes: QB/ATH Henry has already broken most of the school records for a quarterback and his speed and flexibility allows the Eagles to give QB Beal plenty of playing time, as well. The duo threw for 2,683 yards and 34 TDs last fall and will lead an explosive offense that has RB Joyner (1,022 yards, 11 TDs rushing) leading the charge from the backfield. OL Boima is entering his fourth year as a starter and didn't allow a sack as a junior. Abilene's defense, which returns nine starters, features a stout front seven that includes DLs Strahan and Starks and LBs Faimoa and Shaw. One of Abilene's strengths is coaching staff continuity, with many having been on the staff for more than a decade, including six former players.

AMARILLO SANDIES

Coach: Chad Dunnam. Letterman R/L: 32/23. Starters Returning: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jett Lopez (6-1, 200), WR Oliver Parsons (6-0, 175), RB Jude Dunavin (6-0, 180), RB/DL Javari Henderson (5-10, 215), OL Brandon Wright (6-3, 285), WR/DB Austin Sluder (6-1, 175). Top juniors: OL Grant Ladd (6-4, 270), DB Creed Cavalier (5-10, 175). Top sophomore: LB Raider Payne (5-10, 190).

2025 notes: With 32 lettermen and 15 starters back, Amarillo High is hoping to break past the second round of the playoffs and make some serious noise this fall. The Sandies have all the offense intact to make that happen. QB Lopez (3,007 yards, 38 TDs passing) exploded on the scene last season as one of the top passers in the Texas Panhandle. RB Dunavin (1,214 yards, 11 TDs rushing) was another nice surprise and brought balance to the offense. WR Parsons (708 yards, 10 TDs receiving) is a security blanket for Lopez. The defense is the question for AHS to see major success after a rough go in 2024. Dunnam will need leaders to step up throughout the non-district schedule.

CAPROCK LONGHORNS

Coach: Rowdy Freeman. Letterman R/L: 19/33. Starters Returning: 7/6. 2024: 2-8 1/1-6 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Xavier Vargas (5-10, 170, 4.6), QB/DB Juan De La Cruz (5-10, 190, 4.9), WR/DB Alhosa Sheriff (6-1, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Josiah Dames (6-1, 220, 5.3), TE/LB Bryson Butler (5-9, 190, 4.9), WR Andrew Apodaca (5-6, 130, 4.9). Top juniors: TE/LB Jackson Hart (6-0, 174, 4.6), WR/DB Taylan Lewis (6-1, 175, 5.1). Top sophomore: WR/DB Canon Polivoda (5-11, 145, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Jared Martinez, RB/LB Malikai Carrasco, RB/DB Ernesto Alvarado, LB Uriel Gallardo-Bustoz, TE/LB Emiliano Castillo, WR/DB Don Drake Green, RB/LB Adrian Apodaca.

2025 notes: Entering his third season at the helm, Freeman has his most veteran team with 19 returning lettermen and 13 starters back. RB Vargas (660 yards) had a breakout campaign as a junior with even bigger expectations coming into the fall. Freeman has found a QB in De La Cruz, who is the leader the program needs and can beat teams with his feet as well as his arm. WR Sheriff has outstanding track speed on the outside. On the defensive side, LB Butler (62 tackles) plays sideline-to-sideline and has help from LB Hart (59 tackles). DL Dames does his part for his linebackers by opening lanes, taking on constant attention from the offensive line.

CORONADO MUSTANGS

Coach: Andrew Roy. Letterman R/L: 23/32. Starters returning: 7/7. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Willie Crain (6-0, 170, 4.5), WR Campbell Stanek (5-10, 160, 4.4), OL Jemar Richey (6-3, 280, 5.1), QB JJ Villalobos (5-11, 170, 4.7), DB Deshaundric Edmon (5-10, 150, 4.4). Top juniors: WR/DB Isaiah Doss (6-1, 185, 4.6), OL Sebastian Rosales (6-3, 305, 5.3).

2025 notes: It was a rough start for Roy in Year 1 guiding the Mustang football program, but the optimism is there in Year 2. Coronado's goal is to be better disciplined, much stronger and have built a close knit bond. This Mustang team will have some serious speed. DI prospect DB Crain can cover much of the field, and WR Stanek (655 yards, 8 TDs receiving) is a matchup problem for the defense. QB Villalobos is healthy entering the year after facing injuries last season and OL Richey is the top returner in the trenches. OL Rosales helps with the size for

District 2-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jett Lopez, Amarillo

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Krush Johnson, Amarillo Tascosa

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Abilene (2,026)
2. Amarillo (2,169.5)
3. Amarillo Tascosa (2,208)
4. Lubbock Monterey (2,130)
5. Lubbock Coronado (1,944.5)
6. Amarillo Caprock (2,138)
7. Lubbock (1,918)

Coronado and DB Edmon, as well as WR Doss, are compliments on both sides of the ball.

LUBBOCK WESTERNERS

Coach: Juan Rodriguez. Letterman R/L: 28/11. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 3-7/0-6.

Players to watch: QB Zach Reyna (5-9, 141, 4.7), OL Ivan Rodriguez (6-3, 290, 6.3), DB Joshua Olaniran (6-0, 150, 4.9), DB AJ Mujica (5-7, 135, 5.2), DB Harrison Alexander (5-5, 152, 5.1). Top juniors: WR Denzel Robbins (5-11, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB Bo Davis (5-10, 190, 4.8). Other prospects: LB JD Morton, LB Wyatt Morton.

2025 notes: A stronger culture, team unity and team speed are a recipe Rodriguez has to get the Westerners in the playoff mix heading into the 2025 season. The defense has an experienced group with DB Mujica, Olaniran and Alexander. QB Reyna (865 yards, 6 TDs passing) has experience as the signal-caller. RB Davis is a name to keep an eye on with tons of potential heading into the season. WR Robinson is another weapon that will come on and be a valuable target for Reyna. LBs JD and Wyatt Morton are two more players to watch. As always, the Westerners will have to compete in a tough district, but will need a strong start with the non-district schedule.

MONTEREY PLAINSMEN

Coach: Jason Sims. Letterman R/L: 22/18. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Javion Ramon (6-6, 245, 4.6), OL Jacob Mosley (6-2, 310, 5.3), WR Cam Taylor (6-2, 180, 4.6), OL Felipe Pesina (6-2, 310, 5.4), DT KJ Russell (6-2, 245, 4.9), LB Javith Cruth (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Braidly Curry (6-0, 245, 5.2), OL Noah Gonzales (6-3, 305, 5.4). Top sophomore: DL Jordan Evans (6-0, 240, 4.9).

Other prospects: RB/DB Legin Williams, WR/DB Terrance King, RB O'Ryan Jackson, WR Taemon Fitch, QB/LB Jack Greaser.

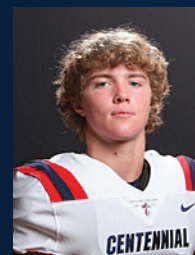
2025 notes: Former Childress coach Sims takes over as head coach. One thing Monterey won't be hurting for is size on either side. DL Ramon is a physical presence that is one of the top pass rushers on the South Plains. DL Russell will be a four-year starter providing experience on that side of the ball. OL Mosley is another top performer to keep an eye on with his massive stature as is OL Pesina. On the outside, WR Taylor (831 yards, 12 TDs receiving) is coming off a huge year and WR Finch is expected to crack the starting lineup. RB Jackson has big-play potential and QB Greaser will be fighting for the starting spot.

TASCOSA REBELS

Coach: Ken Plunk. Letterman R/L: 39/31. Starters Returning: 6/5. 2024: 7-6 regional semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Coltyn Fulton, DL Krush Johnson, RB Reese Cabe, RB Deandre Sanders, FB Tendrick Sargent, FB Treason Elliott, DB Danyen Cervantes, DB Cais Fain, DL Deveon Woodruff. Other prospects: DB De'Mauri Moore, OL Kayden Flores, OL Sebastian Arenivar, RB Danny Amador.

2025 notes: The Rebels found their footing during district play, closing the 2024 season strong, and hope to carry that momentum into the fall. QB Fultyn (1,106 yards, 14 TDs rushing) is a three-year starter that came into his own as a junior last season. What makes Tascosa go, other than a capable signal-caller, is a fullback position solidified by Sargent and Elliott. Bringing speed to the option offense is RBs Cabe (403 yards) along with Sanders. The Rebels tout one of the top DL from Amarillo to Abilene in DL Johnson. The future Power Four player takes on double-teams game in and game out. The secondary is well secured with veterans Fain and Cervantes returning.



Zach
ESKILDSEN
WR
Frisco
Centennial



Corbyn
HARBERT
QB/LB
Frisco



Rick
GOMEZ
OL
McKinney North



Cason
GARCIA
QB
Carrollton
Creekview

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

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HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 3-5A DI Preview

ALEDO BEARCATS

Coach: Robby Jones. Lettermen R/L: 37/43. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 12-1 regional finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Kaydon Finley (6-2, 200, 4.5), OL Payton Williams (6-3, 305), LB Chase Wilburn (6-0, 205, 4.7), DE Carson Dempsey (6-3, 245, 4.8), DE Cooper Cyphers (6-1, 230, 4.7), RB Kaden Winkfield (5-11, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Omari Din-Mbuh (6-1, 275), DT Tymon Meeks (6-0, 255). Top sophomore: CB Jordan Hall (5-10, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: CB Alex Patton, DT Decker Sanders, S Lamel Swanson, S Kamron Hall, OL Ryan Campbell, ATH Lincoln Tubbs, QB Nash McElree, OL Kruger Summers.

2025 notes: Aledo was dethroned a year ago in the regional final by district rival Denton Ryan, but the Bearcats hope that was just a one-year break as they seek their record 13th state title. WR Finley (81-1,432, 21 TDs receiving) is a four-year starter and an absolute monster on the outside. He'll hold every school receiving record when his career wraps up. OL Williams is a force up front leading a group that returns four starters. They'll look to open holes for RB Winkfield (888 yards, 13 TDs rushing). The front seven has a chance to be among the state's best with the return of LB Wilburn (92 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks, 2 INT) and DE Dempsey (56 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 sacks).

AZLE HORNETS

Coach: Devon Dorris. Lettermen R/L: 24/36. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Aiden Mackey (5-11, 165, 4.6), RB King Stephens (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR Brayden Combs (6-2, 180, 4.6), LB Josh Guevara (5-11, 185, 4.7), QB Derreck Vowell (5-11, 180, 4.8), OL Cole Johnson (6-0, 275). Top juniors: DB Hayden Cassidy (6-0, 170, 4.8), LB Jensen Jutson (6-3, 180). Top sophomore: QB Auston Morgan (6-2, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: DB Riley Self, DB Trae Sheppard, RB AJ Garvin, LB Hylon Hughes, DB Jace Jones, LB Jay Glaze, DB Jacan Montelongo, OL Landon Adam.

2025 notes: The Hornets were able to get back into the playoffs a year ago and Dorris believes a strong group of skill players can help AHS make it two straight playoff appearances. WRs Mackey (41-670, 13 TDs receiving) and Combs (45-596, 6 TDs receiving) are back along with talented sophomore RB Stephens (408 yards, 6 TDs rushing). The key will be protecting QB Vowell (2,154 yards, 22 TDs passing) as Azle returns just one on the offensive line. LB Guevara (18 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 sack) impressed in his freshman debut and will now lead the defense as a sophomore. Versatile DB Cassidy (37 tackles, 1 sack, 1 INT) can play in the box or cover in space as he demonstrated as a sophomore.

BIRDVILLE HAWKS

Coach: Chris Smith. Lettermen R/L: 25/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: DL Chi Ugwoegbu (6-1, 240, 4.9), WR Triston Spain (6-0, 195, 4.6), OL Logan Wilson (6-4, 250), LB Jacob Martinez (6-3, 190, 4.6), QB Zach Wells (5-9, 170, 4.7), DL Jonathan Dabbs (5-11, 270). Top junior: LB Hunter Grant (5-10, 200, 4.8). Top sophomore: DL Cooper Howard (6-0, 220).

Other prospects: DB Jamal Ramsey, OL Sean Rankins, DB James Mweri, LB Graham Hightower, DB Denilson Irungu.

2025 notes: Birdville had some growing pains in Smith's first season at the helm, but he believes the Hawks will be ready to contend for a playoff spot in Year 2. QB Wells (1,826 yards, 19 TDs passing) returns after starting nine games as a sophomore and has speedy all-district WR Spain (18-180, 2 TDs receiving) as a top target on the outside. OL Wilson is a big and athletic player in the trenches and the leader for BHS up front. DL Ugwoegbu (60 tackles, 3 sacks) is a menace along the defensive line, while LB Martinez (74 tackles) flourished in his new role after playing safety in 2023.

BREWER BEARS

Coach: Marte Amrine. Lettermen R/L: 20/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-6/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Kameron Coleman (5-10,

175, 4.5), OL Jake Hankins (6-6, 280), OL Devin Moody (6-1, 290), DL Colton Plemons (6-1, 240, 4.8), WR Jaiden Carrigan (6-2, 190, 4.6), ATH Devan Roberts (5-9, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Kingston Hurst, LB Da'Myrian Wash.

2025 notes: New head coach Marte Amrine heads to the western edges of Fort Worth to try and restore Brewer to playoff contention after he successfully turned things around at 3A Maypearl. Brewer will lean on a strong junior class to carry the way, and it starts with explosive RB Coleman (1,548 yards, 10 TDs rushing). Amrine says Coleman is an explosive playmaker with great vision. Coleman will operate behind a veteran offensive line anchored by Hankins and Moody, who are returning starters. The defense has a few more question marks heading into 2025, but DL Plemons is a versatile force that can play inside or outside. The staff is also excited about the potential of LBs Hurst and Wash.

DENTON BRONCOS

Coach: David Beaty. Lettermen R/L: 28/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DE Braylon Young (6-3, 250, 4.9), DT Ayomide Falana (5-11, 215), OL Jack Cooksey (6-5, 290). Top juniors: WR Jordan Sanchez (5-7, 160, 4.5), QB Terrence Lopez (5-11, 160, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR Sylvester Sims (5-9, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: FS Skyler Maldonado, DB O'Ryan Croaker, LB Abhi Bhandari, LB Caleb Parler, OL Clinton Medcafe, RB Reggie White, WR Jaleon Jones, WR Sam Chandler.

2025 notes: Former Kansas Jayhawks head coach David Beaty makes his return to Texas high school football, where he'll look to revive Denton High's struggling program. The Broncos do have some hopes for improvement with 15 starters returning and some help coming from a competitive JV squad. The defensive line will be key for DHS with the return of DE Young (48 tackles, 9 TFL, 5 sacks) and DT Falana (45 tackles, 6 TFL, 4 sacks). WR Sanchez (8-188, 1 TD receiving; 42 tackles, 2 INTs) has big-play potential and will move to the offensive side of the ball full-time. OL Cooksey is a three-year starter and will be the anchor of the Denton offensive line.

GRANBURY PIRATES

Coach: Bobby Allison. Lettermen R/L: 35/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/9. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: LB Chase Cantrell (6-2, 225, 4.7), S Bryson Hager (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL Brooks Meyer (6-5, 295), RB Jonathan McCandless (6-0, 185, 4.7), OL Cody Tribble (6-3, 300), LB Cooper Cumba (6-0, 200, 4.9). Top juniors: QB Austin Reeves (6-4, 200, 4.9), CB Kaleb Johnston (5-11, 165, 4.8).

2025 notes: It was a rough debut in Hood County for Allison, whose Pirates finished at the bottom of the district standings. The good news is GHS played a lot of young guys a year ago so there's plenty of returning experience, especially on defense. LB Cantrell (102 tackles, 12 TFL, 4 sacks) and S Hager (53 tackles, 3 INTs) will be the headliners along with LB Cumba (70 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 sacks). The offensive line will be a big strength as Tribble and talented sophomore Meyer will be the anchors for new QB Reeves, who is expected to take control of the offense.

FOSSIL RIDGE PANTHERS

Coach: Derek Ramsey. Lettermen R/L: 22/25. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Malaki Lockhart (5-9, 175, 4.6), WR Jayden Cowan (6-2, 190, 4.6), WR/DB Kaden Foster (5-9, 165, 4.5), LB Caleb Woodard (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR Payton Cundiff (5-6, 150, 4.6), DB Cameron Smith (5-10, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Michael Reinoshek (5-8, 190, 4.8), DB Terrance Brooks (5-11, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Javeis White, WR Ben Riley, DL Chika Anicho, OL Phat Nguyen, OL Budh Yajeeva, WR Shannon Bartley.

2025 notes: Fossil Ridge dropped down to Class 5A in the most recent UIL realignment and found itself on the outside of the playoff race. The good news is FRHS returns 13 starters, but there are concerns as the senior class is low on numbers. QB Lockhart (1,004 yards, 6 TDs passing) is back

District 3-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Kaydon Finley, Aledo

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DT Uziah "Cookie" Warmate, Denton Ryan

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Aledo (2,267)
2. Denton Ryan (2,147)
3. Richland (2,008)
4. Azle (2,174)
5. Fort Worth Brewer (2,189)
6. Birdville (2,102)
7. Keller Fossil Ridge (2,252)
8. Denton (2,059)
9. Granbury (2,249)

along with his favorite targets WR Cowan (31-404, 4 TDs receiving) and WR Cundiff (38-305, 5 TDs receiving). The Panthers will have an undersized but fast defense, as junior LB Woodard is one of those undersized players who makes up for it with elite speed to help defenders rally to the football.

RICHLAND ROYALS

Coach: Ged Kates. Lettermen R/L: 26/34. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: CB Jaylen Gordon (5-9, 165, 4.5), RB Jayshon Gibson (5-10, 185, 4.5), OL Brian Merino (5-11, 270), WR/DB Aaron Brooks (5-8, 145, 4.5), DE Quade Williams (6-1, 255, 4.9), LB Gage Goodwin (6-3, 200, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Jesaiah Kneubuhl (6-2, 325), WR Benjamin Sanders (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: DE Gevariah Kneubuhl (6-3, 220, 4.9).

Other prospects: QB Brett Kates, DB Jaxson Walker, DT Channing Garner, LB Mason Allison, OL Caden Golightly, OL Jose Aguilar, RB/LB De'ron Jones, TE/LB Hunter Yost.

2025 notes: Richland has made back-to-back trips to the regional semifinals, but the loss of 34 seniors means Kates' squad will be retooling on the fly. Junior RB Gibson (492 yards, 6 TDs rushing) took over due to injury late in the year and averaged better than eight yards per carry. WR Brooks (47-677, 7 TDs receiving) is back after earning all-district honors a year ago. OL Merino was an all-district selection and will be the anchor up front. CB Gordon, who ran a 10.37 100 meters, picked off three passes and also blocked three kicks in 2025. A pair of juniors will be key contributors for the defense in DE Williams and LB Goodwin. "We have a lot of inexperience at the second levels — we have talent but must grow up in a hurry," said Kates.

RYAN RAIDERS

Coach: Dave Henigan. Lettermen R/L: 30/41. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 13-2 5A DI state semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: CB Xaier Hiler (6-3, 180), QB Quin Henigan (6-2, 190), RB Tre Reynolds (5-9, 175), TE Jose Melendez (6-2, 240), DT Uziah "Cookie" Warmate (6-0, 245), DE Errol West (6-0, 270). Top junior: DL Kerri Maddox (5-11, 270). Top sophomore: WR Aven Thomas (6-3, 185).

Other prospects: OL Kishon Hicks, WR Raymond Smith, DE Kha'ron Freeman-Wade, DB Jaxson Dozier.

2025 notes: After a run to the state semifinals, Ryan will look for a repeat performance as a veteran offensive unit piloted by Henigan (2,657 yards, 32 TDs passing) leads the way. The Raiders have weapons with RB Reynolds (955 yards, 11 TDs rushing) and TE Melendez (32-549, 4 TDs receiving) as key weapons. Denton Ryan's defensive line expects to be one of the best in the state with the return of DT Warmate (9 sacks) and DE West, who is an FBS prospect. The secondary took some hits to graduation, as three starters graduated from that unit, although CB Hiler (5 INTs) and DB Dozier (107 tackles) are great pieces to build around. The offensive line lost a pair of Power Four recruits; can the unit reload?

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DISTRICT 4-5A DI Preview

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Curtis James. Lettermen R/L: 19/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Caynan James (6-2, 285), ATH Kaeden Grant (5-11, 175), RB Carson James (5-10, 220), DL Carter James (6-0, 245), WR/DB Antonio Johnson (6-4, 190), WR Vitomir Jovanovic (6-5, 190). Top juniors: LB Kelle Johnson (6-2, 215), LB Isaiah Schuman (5-11, 200). Top sophomore: ATH Yakeime Thomas (5-8, 165).

Other prospects: LB Dino Walker, ATH Chris Harris, ATH Carmelo Carter, TE Jack Evans, S Drake Morton.

2025 notes: The 'Jackets blazed to nine regular season wins a year ago and will look to contend for a district title in 2025. DL Caynan James (80 tackles, 14 TFL, 5 sacks) is a four-year starter, while junior DL Carter James (67 tackles, 25 TFL, 12 sacks) returns after a monster sophomore debut. AHHS has a pair of junior LBs to keep an eye on in Johnson (62 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks) and Schuman (51 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 sacks). ATH Grant (1,716 yards, 18 TDs passing; 434 yards, 12 TDs rushing) is back to guide the offense and he has junior RB Carson James (1,118 yards, 18 TDs rushing) joining him to give Heights a dynamic duo in the backfield. Coach James says youth in the secondary is a question mark heading into fall camp.

CHISHOLM TRAIL RANGERS

Coach: Ricklan Holmes. Lettermen R/L: 37/33. Starters returning O/D: 8/10. 2024: 7-4 5A DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: DB Jordan Goodwin-Allen, OL Nicolas Hartnett, OL/DL Harrison House, RB/LB Quaylon Mason, RB/LB William Quintana, DB Caleb Burriel. Top juniors: TE/DE Aiden Rivas, WR/DB Cameron Booker. Top sophomore: ATH Montez Roberts.

Other prospects: ATH Josh Goods, ATH Taven Fleming, WR/DB Jordan Freeman, RB Ethan Westover, DB Freddie Young, WR/DB Carter Swann, DL Aiden Wood, OL/DL Hunter Morgan.

2025 notes: Holmes' debut at CTHS was a smashing success as the Rangers secured their first playoff appearance, and with 18 starters back, a district title is a real possibility. Holmes says there is a new belief around campus that this team can win and with a full offseason in 2025, there's a good chance for improvement. Team speed is a strength and Holmes notes overall size in the program has improved. Depth should be improved as talent from subvarsity teams that combined to go 13-7 a year ago should be ready to contribute on Friday nights. The biggest weakness for Chisholm Trail is still the lack of success in the program overall, as 2024 was not only the first playoff appearance, but also the first winning season in school history.

NORTH SIDE STEERS

Coach: JJ Resendez. Lettermen R/L: 25/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 4-6/2-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Trustin Holland (6-1, 180, 4.5), RB/DL KD Warner (6-0, 240), OL Manny Rodriguez (6-3, 270), DE Corey Basaldu (6-1, 220), OL Valentin Arenas, DL Brian Durant (6-0, 250). Top juniors: WR/DB Davin Austin, RB/DB Howard Blackmore. Top sophomore: RB/LB Taveion Thompson.

Other prospects: WR/DB Javier Landeros, QB Martin Taylor, LB Dominick Rivera.

2025 notes: New head coach JJ Resendez is the Steers' third head coach in three seasons. He's had success at South Hills and Crowley and will look to get North Side back into playoff contention. QB/DB Holland is a dynamic playmaker who can make things happen in the spread offense, and he'll also be a factor in the secondary. RB/DL Warner is a force along the defensive line but could also be a weapon in short-yardage and goal line scenarios. The offensive line will be solid with veteran returners in Rodriguez and Arenas. Resendez says the staff is excited about some young skill talent with junior WR/DB Austin, junior RB/DB Blackmore and sophomore RB/LB Thompson.

PASCHAL PANTHERS

Coach: John Killough. Lettermen R/L: 20/32. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jashaun Thomas (5-9, 160, 4.5), TE/DE Wyatt Bryant (6-3, 225, 4.8), WR Mike Guerrero (5-8, 160, 4.6), LB Luke Jowers (6-1, 190, 4.7), S Noah Dillon (6-1, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Luke Bozarth (6-2, 255), WR Hudson Avery (6-7, 180, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Turman Shelton (6-0, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Jack English, OL Jackson Hailey, DE Jackson Shepard, LB Sam Williams, LB Will Winfrey, OL Noel Campos, K Joshua Wedemeyer.

2025 notes: Paschal posted a trip to the playoffs for the first time since 1995 a year ago, but a strong class of 32 seniors has moved on. QB Thomas (1,375 yards, 11 TDs passing; 505 yards, 16 TDs rushing) is a true dual-threat option and makes the Paschal offense tough to defend. WR Guerrero (350 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will be the primary target, while junior WR Avery and sophomore RB Shelton have a ton of potential. TE/DE Bryant (4 sacks) will play on both sides of the ball, while LB Jowers (70 tackles, 10 TFL, 3 INTs) and S Dillon (45 tackles, 1 sack, 2 INTs) also return to give Paschal great building blocks at all three levels of the defense.

POLYTECHNIC PARROTS

Coach: CJ Wilson. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: N/A. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Joshua Romero (6-3, 275), QB Billy Johnson (6-2, 170), OL Eduardo Gonzalez (5-10, 230), LB Kendrick Ray (6-3, 225). Top sophomore: ATH Gabriel Castro (5-9, 205).

2025 notes: CJ Wilson enters his third season at Poly as he looks to build the long-struggling Parrots into a winner on Fort Worth's southside. On the offensive side of the ball there are some pieces returning from last year's three-win team, as QB Johnson will lead the offense and operate behind an offensive line anchored by Romero and Gonzalez. LB Ray will lead the defense and is an impressive prospect with good size who can cover sideline-to-sideline. Sophomore ATH Castro is intriguing and could make an impact on both sides of the ball.

SAGINAW ROUGH RIDERS

Coach: Mike DeWitt. Lettermen R/L: 26/25. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Najae Nicholson (5-10, 210, 4.6), RB/DB Isaiah Quinones (5-10, 175, 4.5), DE Isaac Bukasa (6-3, 205, 4.6), OL Jacob Mangas (6-0, 285), WR/DB Boaz Kaloso (5-8, 160, 4.5), DB Jaivean Goff (5-9, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/DB Luke Roseberry (5-11, 160, 4.5), OL/DL J'Den Lopez (6-0, 250). Top sophomore: OL/DL Hunter Dierck (6-3, 250).

Other prospects: DB Jahirin Skinner, OL Chase Millhollon, DE Cornell Davis, DB Rondell Thomas.

2025 notes: Fresh off their best season in school history, the Rough Riders will look for a repeat run under a new head coach as Mike DeWitt arrives after a stint as head coach at New Caney. The defense, at least early on, looks like they'll be the strong point with the return of LB Nicholson (108 tackles, 9 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT), RB/DB Quinones (51 tackles, 3 TDs rushing) and DE Bukasa (62 tackles, 20 TFL, 5 sacks), who is a rangy pass rushing force off the edge. WR/DB Kaloso had nearly 1,000 yards from scrimmage and found the end zone six times a year ago. He'll be key as SHS breaks in several new skill players. Despite the youth, DeWitt believes Saginaw will again be in the district title mix in 2025.

SOUTH HILLS SCORPIONS

Coach: Mika Harp. Lettermen R/L: 20/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: DL Demoiné Hicks (6-2, 225, 4.8), QB JP Martinez (5-9, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Damian Ramos (6-2, 250), OL Marlon Portillo (5-11, 320), WR/DB Adan Torres (5-10, 165, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Silas Torres (6-0, 180, 4.8), RB/DB Jose Macias (5-9, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/DB Arrick Scott (5-9, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Dom Ford, DB Ace Garcia.

2025 notes: It's been a struggle for the Scorpions recently, as SHHS has just three wins in the past four seasons. Harp believes a veteran defense that returns eight starters can get the arrow pointed up. DL Hicks is an absolute force with his combination of size and athleticism, and

District 4-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jashaun Thomas, Fort Worth Paschal

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Caynan James, Fort Worth Arlington Heights

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Fort Worth Arlington Heights (1,989)
2. Fort Worth Chisholm Trail (2,204)
3. Fort Worth Paschal (2,215)
4. Saginaw (2,091)

5. Fort Worth Wyatt (1,804)
6. Fort Worth North Side (1,808)
7. Fort Worth Polytechnic (1,509)
8. Fort Worth South Hills (1,952)
9. Fort Worth Trimble Tech (1,743)

Harp believes a second year in the new system will result in a big step forward. LB Torres started 10 games as a sophomore and will take on a leadership role for the defense. QB Martinez stepped in last year to pilot the offense and showed great toughness. The offensive line will be solid with the return of Ramos and Portillo. "We played a lot of juniors and have a chance to compete for a playoff spot," said Harp.

TRIMBLE TECH BULLDOGS

Coach: MK Hamilton. Lettermen R/L: 34/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Alexis Saucedo (5-7, 200, 4.8), ATH Darius Marshall (6-0, 175). Top juniors: OL Juan Pagueiros (5-11, 275), RB Byron Massington (5-6, 195, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Kendall Campbell (5-6, 135, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Juan Carillo, DE Marcus Hubbard, DT Edgar Torres, CB Francisco Saldivar, CB Alfredo Arce, S Alfreed Homer.

2025 notes: Trimble Tech has improved numbers and could be primed to take a big leap forward in Hamilton's third season as 14 total starters are back. QB Saucedo (965 yards, 8 TDs passing) was a second-team all-district selection a year ago. He'll lead the offense and has a pair of dynamic players in the backfield with junior RB Massington, a first-team all-district pick, and sophomore RB Campbell (658 yards, 6 TDs rushing). Junior ATH Marshall is another dynamic force, who is expected to be an impact player in all three phases for Tech. Junior OL Pagueiros started 10 games a year ago and will be the anchor up front.

WYATT CHAPARRALS

Coach: Zachary Criss. Lettermen R/L: 23/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-6/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Dale Brown (5-10, 210, 4.6), DL Dejon Everett (6-3, 205, 4.6), OL/DL Tyrese Garland (6-4, 330), SS Anthani Mims (5-11, 185, 4.6), WR/DB Lexington Byrd (6-1, 185, 4.5), WR Mark Toombs (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: QB Kentrell Steward (6-0, 170, 4.5), OL Carlos Reed (6-3, 285). Top sophomore: LB Javarie Henderson (6-0, 200, 4.8).

Other prospects: LB Brayden Bengel, OL Jaire Velez, S Darrell Griggs, OL Amir Leggins, LB Djuan Bivens, OL Zane Gilstrap, DB Karmel Jones.

2025 notes: Wyatt missed out on the playoffs a year ago, but with a plethora of returning talent, the hiatus could be limited to just one season. RB Brown (810 yards, 8 TDs rushing) has the potential to be the top back in the district, according to Criss. He has the size to be a durable every-down back, but in the open field, he has breakaway speed. WR/DB Byrd (30-609, 3 TDs receiving) is a two-way playmaker, while junior QB Steward could have a breakout season. Criss says his veteran offensive line will be a strength, as well, heading into 2025. DL Everett had 11 sacks a year ago and is a dominant pass rushing force off the edge, while SS Mims (3 INTs) is a three-year starter in the secondary.

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DISTRICT 5-5A DI Preview

CENTENNIAL TITANS

Coach: Joe Castillo. Lettermen R/L: 20/24. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Zach Eskildsen (6-2, 185, 4.6), RB/LB Jackson Ross (6-1, 205, 4.6), LB Jeremiah Smith (6-4, 215, 4.7), DB Truitt Eckert (6-0, 185, 4.7), DL Morgan Lafratte (6-0, 265), RB Boaz Shappaugh (6-1, 200, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Brendan Stephens (6-1, 180, 4.7), OL Ryan Hays (6-0, 260).

Other prospects: OL/DL Zabrian Alexander, OL Biruk Bahata, OL Dane Harris, WR Evan Carter, QB/LB Carter Hughes, LB Onder Yildirim, TE/LB Karim Shalaby, TE Preston Gilbreath.

2025 notes: New coach Castillo, formerly of Little Elm and North Garland, takes over. The Titans will lean on youth in 2025 as just three starters return on both sides of the ball. In order to climb into playoff contention, they'll need contributions from unexpected places. WR/DB Eskildsen (25-395, 1 TD receiving) is back as a two-way player, and Webb says he had a tremendous offseason. RB Shappaugh returns from injury and should boost the Titans' ground game. RB/LB Ross (51 tackles, 3 TFL) will be a two-way player and will team with LB Smith (40 tackles, 3 TFL) to give CHS a pair of linebackers to build the defense around. DB Eckert (77 tackles, 3 INTs) is a ball-hawk and the leader of the secondary.

FRISCO RACCOONS

Coach: Jeff Harbert. Lettermen R/L: 32/27. Starters returning O/D: 10/1. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Corby Harbert (6-3, 200, 4.7), ATH Jackson Voris (5-9, 185, 4.5), TE Matthew Ellis (6-4, 220, 4.9), LB Harrison Hicks (5-9, 180, 4.5), OL Brody Fisher (6-4, 275), WR/DB Sawyer Borgarello (5-9, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Lowery Asel (5-11, 170, 4.5), WR Brennan Lacey (6-1, 190, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/LB Kam Anderson (5-10, 205, 4.8).

Other prospects: S Aaron Staley, RB Jayson Bustamante, OL Colton Fisher, DE Baron Barker, CB J'siah Watson, LB Bradley Nuckols, DE Slade Leaumont, ATH Brenden Bounds.

2025 notes: Frisco will be a fascinating team to watch in 2025 as the Raccoons return nearly everyone on the offensive side of the ball, but the defense was gutted after graduation. QB Harbert (2,155 yards, 20 TD passing) is back to lead the offense and because of the defensive youth, he may occasionally slide over to play defense in 2025. Three-sport star Voris (30-551, 3 TDs receiving; 353 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is one of the area's most versatile playmakers. He returned two kicks for scores, as well. LB Hicks (66 tackles, 6 TFL, 1 sack) is the lone starter back on defense and will have to take his game to another level and lead a young and inexperienced group.

HERITAGE COYOTES

Coach: John Fish. Lettermen R/L: 30/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 5-5/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Tatum Bell Jr. (6-0, 210, 4.5), WR Vincent Hooper (6-1, 210, 4.7), QB Josh Greek (6-4, 220), RB Denzel Okekeuche (6-0, 220, 4.9), OL Diego Valero (6-0, 280), DL Maurice Koroma (5-10, 240). Top junior: DB Malik Brown (6-3, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB/DB Dallas Brookshire (6-3, 180, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/LB Noah Stumpf, QB Chris Allen, DL Coleman Cobb, LB Mason Kemp, OL Ethan Simpson, DB Bobby Ntuaremba.

2025 notes: New head coach John Fish comes to Frisco Heritage after a stint leading the program at Dallas Wilson. He inherits a team that was on the brink of the playoffs a year ago but fell just short in a balanced district. WR Bell Jr. (67-1,003, 11 TDs receiving) and WR Hooper give the Coyotes a pair of dynamic players on the outside, while tough-running RB Okekeuche (763 yards, 6 TDs rushing) will pace the ground game and is a load to get to the ground. DL Koroma is back after a strong sophomore season and is a load in the middle of the defense, while junior DB Brown (47 tackles, 2 INTs) is a force in the secondary with the size and length to be a force in run support.

LEBANON TRAIL TRAIL BLAZERS

Coach: Sadd Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 26/23. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DE Ethan Walker (5-11, 190), RB

Dorian Vaughn (5-11, 185), WR Zach O'Rourke (6-1, 170), OL Tavian Howser (6-1, 295). Top juniors: OL Cooper Wilson (6-1, 220), OL/LB Hogan Redburn (5-9, 155). Top sophomore: WR/DB Angelo Gibson (5-9, 140).

Other prospects: QB Jordan Jones, OL Zack Goldberg, WR Jackson Shephard, DB Anson Cordero, DE Tyler Booker.

2025 notes: It's been a struggle for Lebanon Trail since the school opened in 2018, as they've had just one winning season and have yet to break through to the playoffs. Sophomore RB Vaughn (249 yards, 3 TDs rushing) impressed as a freshman and could emerge as one of the state's top young running back prospects. WR O'Rourke can line up all over the field and create mismatches in the secondary, while OL Howser made a big leap as a junior and will be the anchor of the offensive line. DE Walker (54 tackles, 4 sacks) has a big-time motor as a three-year starter and will lead the Blazers on defense.

LONE STAR RANGERS

Coach: Jeff Rayburn. Lettermen R/L: 35/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Karece Hoyt (6-2, 210), ATH Davian Groce (6-3, 190), TE Ryder Mix (6-4, 220), DB Jordan Deck (6-3, 180), DL Chris Knauls (6-3, 260), LB Nico Viveros (6-3, 215). Top juniors: WR Zach Forbush (6-3, 180), QB John Madden (5-11, 175). Top sophomore: QB Trey Wright (5-11, 175).

Other prospects: DL Marcei Dominguez, DL Coisen Jaggars, LB Kaleb Tasby, DB Bryce Hayes-Roberts.

2025 notes: Frisco Lone Star pushed all the way to a regional final a year ago and if Rayburn's young offensive line matures, this is a team with the firepower to win a state title. ATH Hoyt (3,308 yards, 34 TDs passing; 1,547 yards, 21 TDs rushing) may move to RB after playing QB a year ago. He'll pair with ATH Groce (47-716, 5 TDs receiving; 691 yards, 13 TDs rushing) to give Lone Star two of the most versatile and productive weapons in the state. TE Mix (446 yards, 5 TDs receiving) is generating plenty of FBS buzz, as well. LB Viveros (80 tackles, 7 TFL) and DL Knauls (4 sacks) will lead what Rayburn hopes will be an improved defensive unit in 2025.

MCKINNEY NORTH BULLDOGS

Coach: Kendall Brewer. Lettermen R/L: 35/33. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 5-6 5A DI bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Rick Gomez (6-3, 305), LB Camden Cole (6-2, 215, 4.6), LB Danelijah Forrester (6-1, 205, 4.6), WR Zaylon Carter (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR J'Ron Brown (5-9, 165, 4.5), DL Eli Harris (6-2, 250). Top juniors: OL Aiden Lowry (6-0, 260), OL Colt Lakotas (6-4, 250). Top sophomore: RB Jaden Cooks (5-10, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: S Tim Adams, TE Gage Bradley, DB Talon Pate, RB Tardrick Corbett, WR Blake Good, QB Brooks Nelson, QB/P Tyler Schuler, QB Campbell Seyb.

2025 notes: Despite losing an FBS signee at RB and WR, the Bulldogs' offense should be stout with the return of speedy WRs Carter and Brown and QB Nelson, who tossed 13 touchdowns passes a year ago. The offensive line is solid with Gomez and two talented juniors in Lowry and Lakotas back in the mix. Two sophomores at RB - Cooks and Corbett - have the coaching staff excited about the potential of the ground game. LB Cole (5 sacks) and LB Forrester (30 tackles) return to lead a young, but talented defense that only returns three total starters. DL Harris saw time as a sophomore and could emerge as a force on the defensive line, while the secondary appears to be the biggest question mark for the defense going into 2025.

REEDY LIONS

Coach: Chad Cole. Lettermen R/L: 16/32. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: DE Preston Healy (6-3, 230, 4.8), QB Lincoln Harn (6-1, 190, 4.6), LB Harrison Latimer (6-2, 195, 4.8), OL Mitchell Compton (6-3, 250), S Ryan McGrath (6-1, 180, 4.7), RB Jarrett Walker (5-7, 150, 4.6). Top junior: OL Caleb Freeman (6-0, 250). Top sophomore: ATH Grayson Jennings (5-10, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: Reedy has quietly turned into one of the

District 5-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Karece Hoyt, Frisco Lone Star

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Preston Healy, Frisco Reedy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Frisco Lone Star (1,955)
2. Frisco Reedy (2,191)
3. McKinney North (2,273)
4. Frisco Wakeland (2,159)
5. Frisco (2,000)
6. Frisco Heritage (2,118)
7. Sherman (2,251)
8. Frisco Lebanon Trail (2,110)
9. Frisco Centennial (2,036)

area's most consistent winning programs. The Lions have four seasons of 10-plus wins since 2018 and have hit double-digit victories in three straight seasons. DE Healy (44 tackles, 6 TFL, 5 sacks) is back to lead the defense. He's a big and athletic kid who can get after the QB. LB Latimer (28 tackles, 4 TFL) is also back along with S McGrath (21 tackles, 2 INTs). Junior QB Harn will take over the offense after playing LB a year ago. He's a four-sport letterman and is a great leader. RB Walker (673 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is a durable back with good vision and will operate behind a strong offensive line.

SHERMAN BEARCATS

Coach: Josh Aleman. Lettermen R/L: 18/34. Starters returning O/D: 3/8. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/S Brycen Taylor (6-3, 185, 4.6), DL Abram Ramirez (6-2, 225), LB Jeremiah Babcock (6-6, 185, 4.9), RB Kaiden Golston (6-1, 180, 4.5), RB Piere Browhow (6-1, 185, 4.6), OL Eric Coleman (6-2, 275).

Other prospects: LB Jaylon Walker, QB Jack Miller, OL Fabian Madrid.

2025 notes: Aleman enters his third season at the helm as he looks to take the Bearcats back to playoff contention. The offense will face a bit of a rebuild with just three starters back, led by senior RB Golston (420 yards, 4 TDs rushing). The rest of the skill positions will be filled by players from a JV team that posted a solid 6-4 mark. The Bearcats' front seven will be the strength, as DL Ramirez (21 tackles, 5 TFL, 1 sack) and pass rushing LB Babcock are key. WR/S Taylor (34 tackles, 1 INT) will be key for the secondary and could be asked to contribute on offense. Junior RB Browhow is an intriguing prospect to keep an eye on and could team with Golston to give Sherman a formidable backfield.

WAKELAND WOLVERINES

Coach: Chandler Isom. Lettermen R/L: 24/30. Starters returning O/D: 4/8. 2024: 8-4 5A DI area finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Cedric Thornton (6-4, 210, 4.8), WR/DB Grayson Myer (5-11, 180, 4.6), QB Jayden Maples (6-2, 200, 4.9), DB Trent McDaniel (5-11, 180, 4.7), DE Austin Wilson (6-0, 230, 4.7), WR Lucas Mangham (6-1, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Dallas Preston (6-0, 190, 4.6), RB Braxton Cole (5-9, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Daniel LeVine, OL Parker Christenson, DB Preston Lowery, S Drew Reed, LB Blake Landry, RB Miles Bladon.

2025 notes: Among the most consistent programs in Frisco ISD, Wakeland made its 12th straight playoff appearance a year ago and advanced out of the first round for the fourth straight year. The Wolverines will lean on their experienced defense to keep the tradition alive as eight starters return, led by LB Thornton (101 tackles, 12 tackles, 4 sacks, 2 INTs) who fills up a stat sheet. DE Wilson (11 TFL, 8 sacks) is a pass rushing force off the edge, as well. QB Maples (2,804 yards, 27 TDs passing; 155 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and WR/DB Myer (56-814, 7 TDs receiving; 53 tackles, 2 INTs) will lead the Wakeland offense. Isom says youth on the offensive line will be the big concern heading into 2025.

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DISTRICT 6-5A DI Preview

ADAMS COUGARS

Coach: Carl Robinson. Lettermen R/L: 36/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DB Dimeria Smith, OL Jonny Ramirez, OL Jose Jovel, RB Tyriq Smith, SS Zavron Elmore, WR Greg Nash. Top juniors: QB JP Marsh, RB Cesilo Guerra. Top sophomore: WR Nic Montgomery.

Other prospects: CB Lowell Cumby, CB LD Ellis, TE Thomas Collier-O'Neal, TE Elijah Velez, FS Mario DeLeon, LB JJ Baez, DT Keven Solis.

2025 notes: It's been a tough two seasons for Robinson and the Cougars, who have won just a single game in 2023 and 2024, but Bryan Adams could be ready to take a step forward with seven starters back on both sides of the ball. The defense will be led by a veteran secondary with DB Smith (71 tackles, 3 INTs) and hard-hitting SS Elmore. On the offensive side of the ball, junior QB Marsh looks to be ready to take over the attack, and RB Smith (610 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a dynamic back who can break a long run at any moment. The Cougars' offensive line will be experienced as well with the return of OLs Ramirez and Jovel. WR Nash (33-41, 2 TDs receiving) is a dynamic big-play threat in the passing game.

CREEKVIEW MUSTANGS

Coach: Dusty Ortiz. Lettermen R/L: 27/23. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Cason Garcia (6-2, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Jaxon Ary (6-2, 325), DE Chidindu Eke (6-3, 200, 4.8), WR/S Ahmar Washington (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Brendyn Shed (5-10, 170, 4.6), DB Deonte Juake (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Gavin Palacio (5-11, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Javari Cummings (5-11, 235, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB/DB Drason Harongsemal (5-9, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Tayshawn Evans, OL/DL Corey LaFrance, DL Romeo Rojas, OL Andres Valdez, LB Brayden Neal, WR/DB Gabriel Smith, LB Isaac Benagh, RB Breon Smith.

2025 notes: After going winless in 2022 and 2023, first-year head coach Dusty Ortiz authored one of the state's great turnaround stories, as Creekview posted eight wins and earned a playoff appearance. The encore could be even better with seven starters back on both sides of the ball. QB Garcia (1,598 yards, 19 TDs passing; 4 TDs rushing) had a big sophomore season and with a full offseason could take a big leap forward. WR/S Washington (21-201, 3 TDs receiving) has "big-play potential," according to Ortiz. OL/DL Ary (30 tackles, 4 TFL, 2 sacks) is the anchor on both sides of the ball, while DE Eke (45 tackles, 5 TFL, 3 sacks) is a dynamic edge rusher and playmaker. "We didn't have an offseason since we arrived in June. We should be stronger and more familiar with schemes," said Ortiz.

MOLINA JAGUARS

Coach: Lance Bruner. Lettermen R/L: 7/13. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Kingston Chavez (6-2, 185, 4.6), OL Noel Fonseca (5-10, 280), ATH Mario Rangel (5-10, 170, 4.7), DL Christian Payton (6-0, 225, 4.8). Top junior: DL Ryan-Andrew Aleman (6-0, 200, 4.8).

2025 notes: There will be a lot of new faces in 2025 for Dallas Molina, as a good senior group was lost to graduation. Bruner says his team should be solid in the trenches with the return of OL Fonseca, an all-district selection a year ago. While on defense, DL Payton (30 tackles, 2 INTs) is a force up front who displays elite athleticism. WR Chavez (40-612, 10 TDs receiving) is the lone offensive skill player returning who put up significant numbers a year ago. The big question will be what young pieces the staff can put around him on the offensive side of the ball? Sophomore ATH Rangel is a talented, young playmaker who could be counted upon to make a difference in 2025.

NEWMAN SMITH TROJANS

Coach: Robert Boone. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Axel Lofstand (6-2, 200, 4.7), WR Max Mingo (5-11, 170, 4.5), RB Zion Williams (5-10, 175, 4.5), DB Evan Acton (6-2, 170, 4.5), DB Markis Williams (5-10, 185, 4.5), DB Elijah Harrison (5-10, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Ivan Flores (6-4, 285), TE Eaden

Wamble (6-0, 195, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Ryan Robertson (5-10, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB Allen Burns, WR Israel Johnson, DL Jabari Washington, DL Andrew Inscore, RB Gianfranco Fuentes, DB Antwand Polk, LB Isaiah Daniels, WR Caleb Belt.

2025 notes: The Trojans put together a strong campaign and a district runner-up finish and with eight starters back on defense, Boone is hoping Newman Smith can contend for that elusive district title. QB Lofstand had a 15:1 touchdown-to-interception ratio a year ago, and Boone said he has a Division I arm. Speedy WR Mingo (29-608, 9 TDs receiving) is the top target, while RB Williams is expected to take over as the featured back with 10.2 speed in the 100. The strength of the defense is in the secondary with the return of a trio of seniors in Acton (29 tackles, 2 INTs), Williams (69 tackles, 7 TFL) and Harrison (62 tackles, 10 TFL, 1 INT). "This is arguably the most talented bunch I've had here in my tenure," said Boone.

NORTH MESQUITE STALLIONS

Coach: Tim Seder. Lettermen R/L: 36/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Terrance Collins (5-11, 185, 4.6), ATH Julian Simpson (5-9, 170, 4.7), WR Ivan Escalante (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Camren Greene (5-10, 180, 4.8), OL Jeremiah Berum (6-2, 260), DB Chris Salas (5-10, 175, 4.8). Top junior: QB Bryston Palacios (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top sophomore: DL Alfred Adome (6-1, 200, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB Keon Burke, OL Luis Suarez, DL Bryce Anderson, LB Ja'Khi Mortan, DB Travion Ford, WR Amyous Sewell, RB Na'kiyce Beasley.

2025 notes: The Stallions went with the youth movement a year ago, and Seder believes that will pay off in 2025 as North Mesquite expects to be in the mix for a playoff spot. There's a lot to be excited about for the NMHS offense, which brings back eight starters, including RB Collins (709 yards, 13 TDs rushing) and ATH Simpson, who tallied well over 1,000 yards of offense and a dozen touchdowns. Junior LB Greene (85 tackles) had an outstanding sophomore season and will be asked to be a leader for a defense that returns six starters. The staff is excited about the potential of sophomore DL Adome, who will be expected to play a key role up front for the defense.

SUNSET BISON

Coach: OJ Abanishie. Lettermen R/L: 18/20. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: RB Dysten Foster (5-9, 205), WR/CB Langston Newhouse (5-11, 175), QB Shia-Mikel Valerio (5-11, 200), OL/DL Javier Ipina (6-4, 290), TE/DL Troy Williams (6-0, 225), RB/LB Josue Martinez (5-7, 190).

2025 notes: The Bison have posted three wins or more in three of the past four seasons; considering they never won more than two games in a season between 2005 and 2020, the progress is evident. The Bison could take another step in the right direction in 2025. RB Foster (934 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a big and physical back who can carry a heavy workload and keep the opposing offense off the field, while WR/CB Newhouse (345 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 231 yards, 6 TDs receiving) is Sunset's big-play threat. OL/DL Ipina is the anchor for the Bison in the trenches, while TE/DL Williams (29 tackles, 4 sacks) is the headliner on the defensive side of the ball.

TURNER LIONS

Coach: Michael Farda. Lettermen R/L: 14/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Rome Martinez, OL/DL De'Leon Flynn, TE/DL James Williams, RB/SS Hector Gutierrez-Picazo, RB/LB Lorenzo Armijo, RB/FS Kahlil Ferrer. Top juniors: RB/SS Elijah Wilbert, OL/DL Gustavo Hernandez. Top sophomore: RB/DB Tyson Hereford.

Other prospects: QB/DB Jaime Marquez, RB/DB Jose Mina-Espinoza, RB/DB Ryan Rankin, RB/DB JJ Hermosillo, QB/SS Humberto Ramirez, OL/DL Ryan Vazquez, WR/FS Michael Stepaniak, ATH Terrance Hereford.

2025 notes: Coach Farda believes the Lions are ready to challenge for a playoff spot in a district that he believes is evenly matched across the board.

District 6-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Cason Garcia, Carrollton Creekview

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Jeremiah Bio, West Mesquite

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. West Mesquite (2,083)
2. Carrollton Newman Smith (2,102)
3. Carrollton Creekview (1,774)
4. Dallas White (2,108)
5. North Mesquite (2,100)
6. Dallas Molina (2,035)
7. Carrollton R.L. Turner (2,223)
8. Dallas Adams (2,226)
9. Dallas Sunset (2,173)

RB/LB Martinez (391 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is one of several capable ball carriers in the Wing-T offensive attack. OL/DL Flynn adds much needed toughness and experience in the trenches, while sophomore RB/LB Armijo is back after earning team defensive MVP honors as a freshman. RB/SS Wilbert will be the leader of the secondary after picking off two passes as a sophomore. "We have a lot of kids who have dedicated themselves this offseason; we have an unselfish group that works hard to win," said Farda.

W.T. WHITE LONGHORNS

Coach: Bryson Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 22/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Ben Ebeke (6-0, 190, 4.6), WR Lovell Neal (6-3, 185, 4.5), OL Mekhi Lamb (6-0, 270), SS Jermarius Jones (5-11, 175, 4.6), QB Andrew Paredes (5-11, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Zycherian Eagle (5-11, 185, 4.7), CB Prosper Moore (6-0, 180, 4.6). Top sophomore: ATH Pharoah Jackson (5-11, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Andres Ramirez, DE Cayden Skipper, DT Yurem Perez.

2025 notes: New head coach Bryson Lewis comes over from nearby Richardson Berkner, where he was the defensive coordinator. The Longhorns have plenty of firepower back with RB Ebeke (1,069 yards, 10 TDs rushing), WR Neal (29-610, 4 TDs receiving) and QB Paredes (2,327 yards, 24 TDs passing). SS Jones (103 tackles) headlines a defense that returns plenty of experience on the back end. Lewis says junior LB Eagle and junior CB Moore could be primed for big seasons. The biggest questions for the Longhorns will be adjusting to their new coaching staff and replacing some heavy graduation losses up front on both sides of the ball.

WEST MESQUITE WRANGLERS

Coach: Stephen Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 29/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Richard Clark (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB Damarion Robinson (5-9, 190, 4.6), ATH Jeremiah Bio (6-2, 190, 4.5), DT Marcus Watson (6-0, 280), RB Kamari Carter (5-9, 180, 4.5), LB Jailon Hicks (6-0, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Walter Wilbanks (6-3, 290), OL Markell Smith (6-4, 270). Top sophomore: WR Xylon Gipson (5-9, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Jaylon Dotson, DB Kentrell Blackshear.

2025 notes: The Wranglers had one of the state's biggest turnarounds in Jackson's first year at the helm, improving from 3-7 to 11-1, and the encore could be even better with 15 starters back. There's elite level skill talent back with WR Clark and two productive ball carriers in Robinson and Carter. All three were first-team all-district a year ago. There's a pair of outstanding junior DLs who will be the anchors up front in Wilbanks and Smith. The defense is dynamic as well, as ATH Bio (9 sacks), DT Wilson (11 sacks) and LB Hicks (107 tackles) all return after stellar seasons a year ago. "We have a lot of talent back and we'll be better up front," said Jackson, who lists inexperience at QB as a question mark going into fall camp.

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DISTRICT 7-5A DI Preview

CENTENNIAL SPARTANS

Coach: Blake Meyer. Lettermen R/L: 24/29. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Jaylon Walker (5-10, 195, 4.6), DE Andrew Hoffman (5-11, 205, 4.9), DT RJ French (5-9, 235), CB Marlon Land (5-6, 150, 4.6), OL Cooper Allen (5-10, 240), TE/DE Karter Morgan (6-0, 220). Top juniors: LB Jayden Garcia (5-10, 185, 4.8), DE Jaiden Vasquez (5-10, 220). Top sophomore: S Jaxon Deaton (5-9, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/LB Christian William, QB/DB Brody Franklin, CB Decoryan Anderson, WR Jake Harvey, OL Trey Moore, WR Davion Sullivan, TE/DE Creede Stafford, OL Josue Vasquez.

2025 notes: Former DC Blake Meyer takes over for the Spartans after Kyle Geller received a promotion this offseason. CHS will be young across the board, but they do have a featured back in RB Walker (1,287 yards, 15 TDs rushing) who is a returning first-team all-district performer. The defense is led by DE Hoffman (65 tackles, 11 TFL, 7 sacks) and CB Land (43 tackles, 1 INT). DT French (15 tackles, 1 sack) saw a lot of time a year ago and looks ready to jump into the middle of the defense, while junior LB Garcia (47 tackles, 7 TFL, 1 sack) returns after a strong sophomore season.

CLEBURNE YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: AJ Sheppard. Lettermen R/L: 29/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Malachi Cunningham (5-9, 170, 4.6), WE CJ Kensley (6-3, 195), RB Hayden Leifeste (5-11, 185), QB Luke Stewart (6-1, 185), WR/DB Major Marvel (5-9, 170). Top junior: DL Anthony Garza (6-2, 220).

Other prospects: DB Cordae Simmons, WR/DB Jayden Navarrete, LB Kai Anderson.

2025 notes: After a difficult 0-10 season, Cleburne made a change at head coach bringing in Mansfield Lake Ridge assistant AJ Sheppard to try to revive the historic program. WR/DB Cunningham (43-751, 7 TDs receiving; 3 INTs) is a playmaker on both sides of the ball and will be a factor in the kicking game, as well. QB Stewart (1,665 yards, 10 TDs passing) returns to lead the offense and has tough-running RB Leifeste (917 yards, 4 TDs rushing) back. The defensive line will be led by DL Garza (16 tackles, 2 TFL), who showed plenty of promise as a sophomore. WR/DB Marvel (65 tackles) also returns to give Cleburne's defense some building blocks.

HIGHLAND PARK SCOTS

Coach: Randy Allen. Lettermen R/L: 25/55. Starters returning O/D: 5/1. 2024: 14-2 5A DI state finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Buck Randall (6-0, 175, 4.7), WR Canon Bozman (6-0, 175, 4.5), LB Beau Jones (6-0, 220, 4.8), RB Matthew White (6-0, 185, 4.6), OL Stuart Allday (6-2, 270), WR Case Messer (6-4, 190, 4.6). Top junior: LB Lee Wagner (5-10, 200, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL/DE Colton Williams (6-4, 240, 4.9).

Other prospects: LB Landon McMurray, WR Harrison Cullum, DE Thomas Cook, OL Tripp Townsend, RB Isaiah Lee, WR Charlie Olmstead, DE Hatcher Phillips, S Ronan Moreland.

2025 notes: The Scots dropped back down to 5A Division I and immediately made a run all the way to the state title game before falling short to Smithson Valley. As usual, Allen's squad was senior heavy, so expect a lot of new faces who have waited their turn to make the most of the opportunity. QB Randall (3,907 yards, 40 TDs passing) had a sensational sophomore season and will only get better, especially if he cuts down on the turnovers. WR Bozman (69-1,119, 12 TDs receiving) will be the top target for what should be an explosive offensive attack. The defense returns just one starter, but LB Jones (88 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 INT) is a great piece to build around for the Scots.

JOSHUA OWLS

Coach: Danny DeArman. Lettermen R/L: 25/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 5-5/1-5 district.

Players to watch: DE Gavin McManus (6-0, 200, 4.6), QB Brayden Payne (6-0, 180, 4.6), DL J.D. Smith (6-0, 235, 4.8), LB Eryk Martinez (5-10, 200, 4.8), RB Esteban Salas (5-10, 205, 4.8). Top juniors: DB Sergio Mata (5-11, 160, 4.5), OL Roger Cruz (5-9, 250). Top sophomore: DL Jaelyn Wilson (6-1, 240, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Bohden Tholkes, RB Lucas Liles, LB Jaxon Wells, DB Dre Wilson.

2025 notes: Joshua made major strides a year ago, posting its best record since 1996. Now the goal is to improve in district play and try to compete for a playoff spot. The Owls' flexbone offense will be directed by QB Payne, who spent last season playing in the slot. If he can master the offense, expect Joshua to shorten games and help its defense with long, time consuming drives. RB Salas (518 yards, 3 TDs rushing) showed promise while splitting time in the backfield as a sophomore. DE McManus (48 tackles, 9 TFL, 2 sacks) is an athletic edge rusher, while sophomore DL Wilson (32 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 sacks) was highly impressive as a freshman and has a chance to be special.

District 7-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Buck Randall, Highland Park

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Desmond Cox, Red Oak

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Highland Park (2,165)
2. Midlothian (1,941)
3. Red Oak (2,176)
4. Tyler (2,101)
5. Burleson Centennial (2,193)
6. Joshua (1,812)
7. Cleburne (1,986)

MIDLOTHIAN PANTHERS

Coach: Doug Wendel. Lettermen R/L: 17/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-3 5A DI regional semifinalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Noah Best (6-4, 300), QB/LB Beau Wendel (5-11, 195, 4.7), WR/DB Brendyn Jackson (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/LB Kentorian King (6-0, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Jarrell Bridges (6-0, 175, 4.5), DE Mason Foster (6-1, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: TE/DE Rylan Harper (6-0, 200, 4.9).

Other prospects: RB Justice Roberts, RB Michael Archy, DT Cesera Williams, DB Karsen Kemp, DE Jacob Anderson, OL Ethan Myers, DT Ahmed Kelly, RB/DB Chase Bailey.

2025 notes: 2024 was supposed to be a "rebuild" year for Midlothian, but the Panthers defied many of the experts by posting 10 wins and a third-round playoff appearance. OL Best is the anchor up front and one of the state's top prospects along the O-Line. QB/LB Wendel (1,220 yards, 13 TDs passing; 1,065 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is an efficient operator of the option attack, while sophomore WR Jackson (47-692, 7 TDs receiving) was the breakout star a year ago. LB Bridges and DE Foster are exciting young prospects who expect to be key pieces for what will be an improved defense. Wendel says finding a feature RB and depth up front are key concerns heading into fall camp.

RED OAK HAWKS

Coach: Melvin Robinson. Lettermen R/L: 24/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Brayden Robinson (5-9, 165, 4.4), QB Billy Middleton III (6-1, 170, 4.5), LB Desmond Cox (6-0, 205, 4.6), LB Courtney Gorden (5-11, 210, 4.6), DT Gabriel Giadolor (6-2, 260), ATH Dhillon McGee (6-1, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: DT Johnnie Fitzgerald (6-3, 290), WR Jordan McQuin (5-10, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: DB Gavin George (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: DT Kaleb Ross, OL Zackary Bustamante, OL Romeo Jackson, RB Lorenzo Holman, DE Anthony Smith, S Renard Thomas, WR D'Aires Byerly, OL Clayton Duckworth.

2025 notes: The Hawks advanced to the area playoffs a year ago, and if they can emerge out of a tough 7-5A Division I, another playoff run could be in the cards. WR Robinson (79-1,408, 15 TDs receiving) is one of the state's most explosive playmakers and will lead the offense along with QB Middleton III (2,346 yards, 19 TDs passing; 988 yards, 15 TDs rushing). There are some question marks for the offense, primarily on the offensive line and with inexperience at some of the other skill spots. Red Oak's defense should be much improved with eight starters back, led by LB Cox (145 tackles, 15 TFL, 2 INTs) and LB Gorden (135 tackles, 10 TFL, 2 sacks).

TYLER LIONS

Coach: Rashaun Woods. Lettermen R/L: 29/24. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Trey Haralson (6-2, 195, 4.5), RB Cadarius McMiller (6-1, 200, 4.4), DL Tristen Taylor (6-1, 275), DB Braylen Ford (5-11, 180, 4.6), QB Caden Granberry (5-6, 155, 4.5), RB Ashton Arriaga (5-6, 175, 4.8), K Marvin Espinal (6-0, 170), LB Daniel Bush (6-1, 220, 4.7), ATH Markeithian Potts (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL Tristen Mallard, TE Chris Moore, WR Davion Sirles, DL James Collier, DB Kaleb Johnson.

2025 notes: After knocking on the door of the playoffs the past two seasons, the Lions are confident in a return to the postseason. Tyler has among the best skill talent in the state with the return of WR Haralson (32-682, 12 TDs receiving), RB McMiller (592 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and RB Arriaga (743 yards, 7 TDs rushing). QB Granberry (1,755 yards, 21 TDs passing) enters his third season as a starter and is the team's field general. DL Taylor (36 tackles, 6 TFL) is a stout interior lineman, while DB Ford (53 tackles) returns to lead the CUJO secondary. "We expect to play this year with a sense of urgency and being more physical," said Woods.



Dysten
FOSTER
RB
Dallas Sunset



Malachi
CUNNINGHAM
WR/DB
Cleburne



Noah
BEST
OL
Midlothian



Brayden
ROBINSON
WR
Red Oak

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 8-5A DI Preview

CEDAR PARK TIMBERWOLVES

Coach: Michael Quintero. Lettermen R/L: 24/25. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Trae Hill (5-10, 210, 4.5), LB Jahiem Porter (6-1, 215, 4.6), QB David Cooper (6-3, 205, 4.6), DL Brooks Bouffard (6-1, 245), WR Jamal Porter (6-0, 190, 4.5), DL Olujimi Aluko (6-1, 215). Top juniors: RB Cameron Graham (5-10, 195, 4.6), WR Johah Johnson (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: DB CJ Rogers (5-11, 165).

Other prospects: LB Jacori Sims, DB Hayden Hollander, LB Bennet Patton, OL Jacob Slaughter, OL Bruck Bungo, RB Lucas Vitoria, OL John Holing.

2025 notes: While a "down" 2024 still had its moments – the Timberwolves handed rival Vandegrift its only loss in a 6A DII championship season – 15 returning starters may spark a resurgence. LB Porter (125 tackles) and DLs Bouffard (48 tackles, 3 sacks) and Aluko (30 tackles, 5 sacks) lead a hungry defense. DB Hollander (26 tackles) and LBs Sims (32 tackles, 2 INTs) and Patton also figure to step up. QB Cooper (2,181 yards, 20 TDs passing; 574 yards rushing) returns to guide a balanced offense bolstered by OLs Slaughter, Bungo and Holing. They'll pave the way for RBs Hill (608 yards, 12 TDs rushing in injury-shortened 2024) and Graham (410 yards, 11 TDs rushing) and WR Porter (579 yards, 5 TDs receiving) to make plays.

CHAPARRAL BOBCATS

Coach: Tyrell McCrea. Lettermen R/L: 35/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 2-8/0-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Davian Arthur (5-9, 175, 4.5), DL Brian Brundidge (6-2, 255), QB Bryson Coleman (6-2, 180, 4.6), LB Aaden McCullum (5-11, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: ATH Kimoni Sherman (5-9, 165, 4.4), DL Shaun Fuller (6-2, 245). Top sophomore: OL Mekhi Toliver (6-2, 240).

Other prospects: OL Eric Yates, OL Thairone Moses, LB Jeremiah Williams, RB Harrison Lyon, LB Antonio Simmons, WR Nathaniel Brown.

2025 notes: New coach McCrea isn't letting the program's young status get in the way of expectations. The coach expects his team, in just its fourth year of varsity football, to compete for a postseason spot. A strong returning nucleus looks to take the next step. QB Coleman (1,067 yards, 6 TDs passing) got valuable experience as a sophomore. ATH Arthur (735 total yards, 5 TDs) will be a key cog on offense. Success will be predicated on an improved defense. DL Brundidge (5.5 sacks) and LB McCullum (73 tackles, 3 INTs) return after solid junior campaigns. DL Fuller and LBs Williams and Simmons also return. In a district that includes Cedar Park and Georgetown, the Bobcats want to become postseason performers sooner rather than later.

EAST VIEW PATRIOTS

Coach: Bill Robertson. Lettermen R/L: 22/25. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-5/3-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Tieson Ejiawoko (6-4, 223, 4.5), QB Cormyc Guerrero (5-11, 165, 4.5), DL Ty Temples (5-11, 215, 4.7), DB Aquavious Marbury (6-0, 185, 4.4), DB/LB Jalani Culpepper (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Austin Cain (5-11, 260, 5.2), RB Jayvion Clayter (6-0, 205, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR Sammy Williams (6-0, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Sam Arnett, TE Makail Deleon, WR Caleb Hill, DB Lord Isokpunwu, DL Keith Marshall, OL Damien Myers.

2025 notes: Robertson takes over a program that seems on the verge of a breakthrough, and his defensive background and focus could push the Patriots over the top and into the playoffs. LB Ejiawoko (60 tackles) is one of the state's highest rated prospects and could chip in on offense. He'll lead alongside all-district returnees DL Temples and DB Marbury. DB/LB Culpepper could move closer to the line of scrimmage to pair with LB Arnett. Offensively, QB Guerrero moves from catching passes to throwing them. He'll lean on RB Clayter, WRs Williams and Hill and OLs Myers and Cain. Robertson says the team must develop depth along the offensive line, but the focus on playing

more aggressive defense should keep the Patriots in most games.

GEORGETOWN EAGLES

Coach: Chuck Griffin. Lettermen R/L: 20/39. Starters returning O/D: 7/2. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jett Walker (6-2, 215, 4.5), DL Tension Dean (6-2, 210, 4.6), OL Kaden Scherer (6-6, 280, 5.3), LB Kole Mitchell (6-0, 185, 4.7), WR Xavier Warren (6-0, 170, 4.3). Top juniors: WR Brayton Westfall (5-10, 150, 4.7), QB Kaleb McDougale (6-1, 175, 4.9).

Other prospects: DL AJ Stevenson, DB Jahad Abdanur, DB Cade Erickson, RB Luke Livingston, OL Sam Lopez, WR Reegan Torosian, TE Brody Herman.

2025 notes: The Eagles should feature one of the most explosive offenses in 5A. They return one of the state's most dynamic players in RB Walker (2,348 yards, 38 TDs rushing), a first-team all-state pick last year. He'll anchor an offense that also includes all-district OL Scherer (22 pancakes). WRs Warren (932 total yards, 13 TDs) and Westfall (226 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will also make life easy for QB McDougale (2,442 yards, 30 TDs passing), a junior who's coming into his own. With plenty of offense, Georgetown's long-term success depends on improving a defense that allowed 22 points per game. LB Mitchell (128 tackles) and DE Dean (65 tackles, 5 sacks) return to anchor the defense. If new starters blossom around them, the Eagles should soar.

GLENN GRIZZLIES

Coach: Brandon Krauskopf. Lettermen R/L: 32/23. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB DeMarcus Davis (6-1, 170, 4.5), ATH Braelon Deloatche (6-2, 245, 4.6), RB Keaton Gordon (5-9, 175, 4.6), RB/WR Jason Ortiz (5-10, 185, 4.6), LB/RB James Gray (5-11, 190, 4.7), OL Zephaniah Franks (6-4, 325, 5.4). Top juniors: RB/DB Jayden Mayberry (6-1, 185, 4.5), WR/DB Evan Blair (5-7, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: ATH Alexander Ross-Randolph, DB/WR Jaiden Smith, OL Austin White, OL Kassin Kadour-Calzadilla, QB/DB Leonel Martinez, OL Maximo Bolanos-Blanco, LB Deveon Toney, DB/WR Diego Ovalle.

2025 notes: After an injury-riddled season, the Grizzlies look to stay healthy and bounce back behind a senior class that's a little more experienced than originally expected. WR/DB Davis (509 yards rushing, 244 yards receiving, 8 total TDs) returns as a two-time all-district performer. ATH Deloatche (55 tackles, 6 sacks) will play both sides of the ball, including some at QB, where Krauskopf hopes to find a starter before Week 1. RBs Gordon (650 yards, 8 TDs rushing), Ortiz (622 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and Mayberry will also be heavily involved offensively. OLs Bolanos-Blanco, Kadour-Calzadilla, Franks and White also return. LBs Gray (42 tackles) and Toney (65 tackles) return, joined by DBs Ross-Randolph and Smith, both of whom were pressed into key roles last season.

LAKE BELTON BRONCOS

Coach: Brian Cope. Lettermen R/L: 23/44. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/ATH Davion Peters (6-0, 170, 4.5), QB Maverik Maddux (6-3, 180, 4.9), DB/LB Braxtan Cope (6-1, 190, 4.5), LB Gavin Owens (6-2, 210, 4.7), WR Zion Harness (5-11, 165, 4.5), RB Zyien Dupree (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Colton Crocker (6-3, 260, 5.1), LB Gavin Carpenter (6-0, 195, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Jacob Johnson, DL Evan Lazott, DB Gavin Stewart, DL Caleb Chandler, DB Ayden Mitchell, WR Christian Onchweri, TE/WR Logan Winkler, OL Hunter Loraux.

2025 notes: In the Broncos' short history, Cope's teams have had explosive offenses, and 2025 figures to be more of the same thanks to what he calls the best collective group of skill players he's had. Explosive ATH Peters (707 yards receiving, 512 yards rushing, 17 total TDs) is a problem for defenses with the ball in his hands, and QB Maddux (1,124 yards, 10 TDs passing) will be focused on getting it to him, as well as WR Harness and sophomore RB Dupree (413

District 8-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jett Walker, Georgetown

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jahiem Porter, Cedar Park

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Georgetown (2,058.5)
2. Cedar Park (1,966)
3. Lake Belton (2,270)
4. Leander Rouse (2,088)
5. Georgetown East View (2,193)
6. Leander (2,270)
7. Killeen Chaparral (1,999)
8. Leander Glenn (2,221)

yards rushing in three games), who burst onto the scene before a season-ending injury. It won't be all about the offense, though. DB/LB Cope (74 tackles, 2 INTs) is a 3-year starter and LB Owens (98 tackles) is a proven playmaker.

LEANDER LIONS

Coach: Kris Price. Lettermen R/L: 33/32. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Tyree Smith (6-0, 185, 4.6), QB Mason Montgomery (6-3, 175, 4.5), OL Easton Brockman (6-3, 295, 4.8), DL Caleb LeMare (5-10, 250, 4.9), LB Tyler Moorman (6-3, 185, 4.7), RB Kemarion Gordon (5-10, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: K/P Rene Rodriguez (6-0, 190), WR Isaac Montgomery (6-2, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Liam Walters, OL Jacob Wells, LB Chase Milne, OL Dustin Stanton, WR Dominic Jaramillo, DB Nicholas Winton, DB Virgil Garica, LB Evan Perkins.

2025 notes: The Lions took a step toward playoff contention in 2024 and Price believes a strong senior class can lead them over the hump. A defense that lowered its points allowed by 14 points per game last season welcomes back DB Smith, LB Moorman (32 tackles, 4 INTs) and DL LeMare to continue the improvement. LBs Waters (20 tackles), Milne (3 sacks) and Perkins also return after playing key roles, as do DBs Winton and Garcia. Behind OLs Brockman, Wells and Stanton, athletic QB Montgomery (325 yards passing, 304 yards rushing, 268 yards receiving; 9 total TDs) should find success leading the way. RB Gordon (926 yards rushing) is poised for a bigger season, and WRs Montgomery and Jaramillo will get plenty of targets.

ROUSE RAIDERS

Coach: Joshua Mann. Lettermen R/L: 17/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB London Morgan (6-1, 190, 4.7), RB Anthony Reyes (5-9, 195, 4.7), RB/WR Aubryn Davis (5-8, 180, 4.6), LB Reed Henson (5-6, 185, 4.7), LB/DB Adrian Agbasoga (6-1, 210, 4.5), DL Tyler Miller (6-0, 240, 4.9). Top juniors: ATH Zyion Street (6-2, 180, 4.5), DB Kyzer Jones (6-0, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: DB Miles Burrell (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: ATH Liam Mongold, DB Trey Mays, DB Elijah Carprew, OL Ernesto Ramirez, OL Daniel Rybarski.

2025 notes: Coach Mann's Raiders aren't strangers to high-scoring offenses, but this year's team might really light up stadium scoreboards. QB Morgan (2,649 yards, 24 TDs passing) is primed for a big year alongside RB Reyes (670 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and RB/WR Davis (393 yards rushing). Developing a big-play receiver will be a key, but returning OLs Ramirez and Rybarski anchor a unit that should give Morgan plenty of time. Developing more talent up front and outside in the passing game will be early-season priorities. The Raiders won't be all about the offense, though. LB Henson (110 tackles) and all-district DL Miller (45 tackles, 4 sacks) lead a unit that includes LB Agbasoga (84 tackles) and athletic DBs Jones, Burrell, Mays and Carprew.

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 9-5A DI Preview

BALL GOLDEN TORNAOES

Coach: Omasha Brantley. Lettermen R/L: 21/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Josiah Evans (6-4, 275), WR Juwaan Woodbury (6-1, 175, 4.6), LB Cameron Thomas (6-1, 205, 4.7), CB Jayvian Joseph (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL Tarris Woods (6-3, 260), WR Jera' Mon Charles (6-2, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Ethan Freeman (5-9, 170, 4.6), ATH Corieon Sanders (6-4, 205, 4.6). Top sophomore: CB Isaiah Washington (6-1, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB Noah Crockett, LB Jadon Alexander, WR Bryce Holmes, LB Tony Calhoun, ATH Tristan Wesley, WR Herbert Robinson, DT Zay'Veon Hubbard.

2025 notes: It's a year of transition, as new head coach Omasha Brantley gets his first chance to be a head coach after a run as the Clear Springs OC. Despite the losses to graduation, he believes Ball can still contend because of an abundance of talented playmakers at the skill spots. WR Woodbury (45-1,026, 10 TDs receiving) emerged as a legitimate deep threat, while WR Charles could be ready to break out. OLs Evans and Woods are the leaders up front, but Brantley says developing depth up front and finding a QB will be key priorities for the offense. The defense is led by LB Thomas (82 tackles, 5 TFL, 1 sack) and CB Joseph (30 tackles, 2 INTs), whom Brantley calls "a speed demon."

BARBERS HILL EAGLES

Coach: Cody Simper. Lettermen R/L: 29/39. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Kaegan Morton (5-8, 150, 4.4), LB Carson Hahn (6-0, 200, 4.7), DL Trae Clark (6-0, 245, 4.9), DL Bryce Jackson (6-2, 290). Top juniors: OL Max Summers (6-3, 310), WR Anthony Bonnet (6-2, 190, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Wells Brycen, QB Brady Barrier, DB Cole Ackerman, RB Gabriel Howard, WR Garner Poole, OL Noah Jenkins, RB/LB Jamal Jones.

2025 notes: After battling numerous injuries a year ago, the Eagles were able to secure an area round playoff appearance. Now, new head coach Cody Simper will try and help BHHS soar with a lot of new faces in 2025. WR Morton (46-841, 15 TDs receiving; 281 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is among the state's most explosive playmakers and will headline a young offense. Wells and Anahuac transfer Barrier will likely battle for the QB job. LB Hahn (159 tackles) leads a young defense along with DL Clark (95 tackles, 6 sacks) and DL Jackson (73 tackles, 5 sacks). "We've got a tough schedule with a young team picking up new schemes, so we'll need to adapt fast," said Simper.

LUFKIN PANTHERS

Coach: Carl Abseck. Lettermen R/L: 32/42. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Javion Johnson (6-2, 185, 4.6), LB Desmen Hood (6-2, 215, 4.5), RB Kenneth Waters (5-8, 175, 4.5), DE Jamariea Davis (6-0, 235, 4.7), RB Kylon Coleman (5-10, 185, 4.6), DB Keshawn Waters (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Ethan Henson (6-3, 310), LB Josh Bennett (6-0, 210, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Robert Taylor (6-0, 185, 4.5).

Other prospects: ATH Devon Wallace, WR Jakevion Sanders, WR Kaleb Barraza, OL Justus Daniels, S Chance Horace, DL Jaryen Whitaker, OL Johnston Hicks, CB Sam Smith.

2025 notes: Abseck comes over from district rival Barbers Hill and inherits a Lufkin squad fresh off a district title. He believes if things break right, this team has the potential to be quite dangerous once the playoffs roll around. QB Johnson is back to lead the offense after missing much of 2024 with an injury, and is a great leader. There's depth at RB with Waters (1,063 yards, 9 TDs rushing), Coleman (283 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and talented sophomore Taylor. LB Hood (35 tackles, 5 sacks) is a rangy player who covers a ton of ground and has a great football IQ. He'll lead the defense along with junior DE Davis (25 tackles, 7 TFL, 4 sacks).

MEMORIAL TITANS

Coach: Brian Morgan. Lettermen R/L: 25/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Tank King (6-2, 215), RB Amante Martin (6-1, 195), CB Brock King (5-10, 175), WR Keavon Roberts (6-5, 180), OL Michael Milson (6-4, 260), DB Jamarquis Hudson (6-2, 185). Top juniors: OL Brandon Hebert (6-5, 280), WR Brandon Richards (5-10, 170).

Other prospects: RB Alex Eugene, CB Darrod Jacobs, DB Tyson Barnes.

2025 notes: The Titans are fresh off an area round playoff appearance a year ago, and with several key players entering their third year as starters, Port Arthur Memorial is eying much more in 2025. The offense is led by RB Martin, a four-year varsity player who holds multiple FBS offers. WR Roberts is a big and physical weapon on the outside who demands safety help over the top and will play Power Four football on Saturdays. LB Tank King is one of the

District 9-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Javion Johnson, Lufkin

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Tank King, Port Arthur Memorial

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Lufkin (2,159)
2. Port Arthur Memorial (2,114)
3. Barbers Hill (2,092)
4. Galveston Ball (2,030)
5. Beaumont West Brook (2,234)
6. Beaumont United (2,138)
7. Baytown Sterling (2,139)

country's top recruits; he has prototype size and has topped 100 tackles in two straight seasons, while CB Brock King leads the secondary and holds a bevy of FBS offers. Morgan says youth on the defensive line will be the biggest question mark going into 2025.

STERLING RANGERS

Coach: Spencer Anthony. Lettermen R/L: 24/25. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Jackson Favors (6-1, 200, 4.8), RB Sean Olorode (5-10, 185, 4.5), RB Elijah Lewis (5-11, 210, 4.6), WR/DB Shaquille Leaks (6-1, 175, 4.6), SS Lucas Leonce (6-1, 200, 4.6).

2025 notes: New head coach Spencer Anthony makes the move across town from Baytown Lee, where he served as defensive coordinator, to take over at Sterling. SHS returns 15 starters so expect improvement, but it may be tough to climb all the way from the basement to playoff contention. QB Favors (1,134 yards, 7 TDs passing) returns for his third season to lead the offense. He'll have two capable ball carriers in RBs Olorode (260 yards, 2 TDs rushing) and Lewis (233 yards, 4 TDs rushing). WR/DB Leaks (13-175, 3 TDs receiving) can take the top off the defense and will also be counted on to contribute defensively. Anthony calls SS Leonce (72 tackles) a "Swiss Army Knife."

UNITED TIMBERWOLVES

Coach: Drenard Williams. Lettermen R/L: 27/31. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Ashton Henry, DB Jonas Badger, QB Raphael Deshotel III, RB Derrian Anderson, OL Kevin Thomas, CB Jamon Pelican. Top juniors: WR/DB Tylin Merriweather, LB Myles Andrews. Top sophomore: RB Da'Shawn Moore.

Other prospects: OL ZyKing Britton, LB Christopher Norman, OL Dewey Hickmon, LB Brandon Gobert, WR Emmanuel Shaffer-Jones, LB Collen Woolridge, LB Jerry Brown, WR Ontario Williams.

2025 notes: Beaumont native Drenard Williams takes over a United program that's never had a winning season, but he brings a winning pedigree to his hometown after time as an assistant at powerful Austin LBJ. The offense should be dynamic with QB Deshotel III (874 yards, 5 TDs passing) leading the charge. RB Anderson (294 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and WR/DB Henry (19-259, 4 TDs receiving) also return for added firepower. LB Norman (42 tackles, 1 sack) leads the front seven, while there's talent back in the secondary with DB Badger and CB Pelican returning.

WEST BROOK BRUINS

Coach: Chuck Langston. Lettermen R/L: 26/27. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

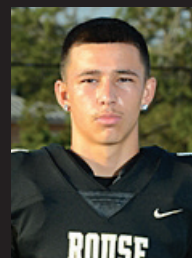
Players to watch: OL Xavier Stewart (6-4, 270), LB Chris Landry (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Nick Stuberfield (6-0, 205, 4.7), OL Devon Nabors (6-1, 280), DB Brayren Briscoe (5-11, 160), LB Terrell Thibodeaux (5-10, 190, 4.6). Top juniors: QB Tam Anderson (6-1, 185, 4.5), LB Kailon Walker (6-2, 210, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Miguel Rubio (6-1, 250).

Other prospects: DB Zac Blanchard, DB Derriquer McGrue, RB Tavaris Bell, WR Jean Harrell, DL Ashton Carter, K Dylan Purnell, LB Jay'Vier Fair.

2025 notes: Langston believes a veteran defense and some key pieces back on offense will be enough for the Bruins to make a playoff return. Stewart and Nabors are the anchors on the offensive line, but three new starters will need to emerge and depth is a concern there. Junior QB Anderson (780 yards, 5 TDs passing; 856 yards, 11 TDs rushing) is back after earning newcomer of the year honors in 2024. The defense is led by a loaded group of LBs with Landry (74 tackles, 7 TFL), Stuberfield (48 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 INT) and talented junior Walker (45 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 INT) all returning.



Jett
WALKER
RB
Georgetown



London
MORGAN
QB
Leander Rouse



Josiah
EVANS
OL
Galveston Ball



Greg
LEON
QB
Houston Austin

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 10-5A DI Preview

AUSTIN MUSTANGS

Coach: Stephen Wiggins. Lettermen R/L: 17/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/11. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Greg Leon (6-1, 215, 4.6), RB/LB Samuel Moreno (5-8, 185, 4.6), LB Marcus Johnson (5-9, 175, 4.6), DL Neiman Williams (5-10, 235, 4.8), OL/DT Jessie Cruz (6-2, 285), OL Felix Ortega (5-10, 210, 4.8). Top junior: DL Ke'Ante Brantley (5-9, 200, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/DB Ladarious Lundy (5-9, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Caleb Carter, DB Nevan Mixon, LB Donald Nickerson, DL Ryan Tamez, LB Huber Cardenas, DL William Knight.

2025 notes: Austin enters its second season under Wiggins and returns plenty of experience with 20 starters back, so expect the Mustangs to be much improved. Senior QB Leon is back to lead the offense and is a two-sport athlete Wiggins calls "one of the best student athletes in HISD." Wiggins calls sophomore WR/DB Lundy, "a real bright spot," as he gives the Mustangs a deep threat in the passing game. RB/LB Moreno and LB Johnson were both all-district a year ago and will lead the defense, while DL Williams, a standout wrestler, is expected to have a big season on the defensive line. It may be tough to expect a playoff run, but don't be surprised if the Mustangs are the most improved team in Houston ISD.

GALENA PARK YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Spiro Amarantos. Lettermen R/L: 12/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Cary Clay (5-5, 165, 4.5), QB/DB Kendall Combs (5-10, 180, 4.6), DL Matthias Valenzuela (6-1, 265), DB AJ Esqueda (5-7, 165, 4.8), OL Andres Palacios (6-1, 310), DB Edmin Ramirez (5-7, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: TE Roger Hernandez (5-10, 190, 4.9), DL Norman Vargas (5-11, 255). Top sophomore: WR/DB Chase James (6-0, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Aidan Salazar, OL Dylan Arriaga, WR/DB Angel Hernandez, WR Josue Garcia, RB/DB Christian Hollins, LB John Carmona, OL Mark Gonzalez, RB Darick Runnels.

2025 notes: Expect Galena Park to be right in the title mix in 10-5A Division I as the Jackets bring back some quality playmakers. RB Clay (1,465 yards, 22 TDs rushing) is the featured back in Galena Park's ground-oriented attack. QB/DB Combs (512 yards, 5 TDs passing) isn't asked to throw much, but he's accurate when he does go to the air. He's a good runner and will also start for GPHS in the secondary. The 4-3 defensive look will be led by DL Valenzuela (36 tackles, 5 sacks), who is able to set the edge in the run game, but has a good first step and can get after the QB. He leads a defensive line that Amarantos says will be the strength on that side of the ball.

MADISON MARLINS

Coach: James Soria. Lettermen R/L: 20/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Damien Duckworth (5-9, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Andre Muhammad (5-10, 210, 4.8), DL David Sellers (6-2, 265, 4.9), WR/DB Larry Carrington (6-2, 170, 4.7), TE/DE Julian McCullough (6-2, 205, 4.8), OL Reshawn Kennedy (6-3, 315). Top juniors: RB Avery Jelks (5-7, 175, 4.5), WR DeAndre Columbus (6-2, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Donterrio Dorne (5-11, 185, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Jaiden Thomas, OL/DL Samaritan York, LB Nathaniel Salas, WR Jaylein Kuykendall, LB Ahmir Harris, TE/LB Darius Hall, RB Rojawn Butler, CB Danzell Bloodworth.

2025 notes: The Marlins will look to move up the district standings in Soria's second season, and he believes 15 returning starters combined with help from a 7-3 JV team could push Madison back into the playoff discussion. ATH Duckworth (21-185, 1 TD receiving; 79 tackles, 2 INTs) was a force on defense and will be a much bigger part of the offense this year as a team captain. RB/LB Muhammad (311 yards, 1 TD rushing; 64 tackles, 2 sacks, 1 INT) is another two-way standout and a three-year starter. Junior OL Kennedy started the first three games of the year before missing the rest of the season with an injury. His return will stabilize the offensive line.

MILBY BUFFALOES

Coach: Matt Puente. Lettermen R/L: 14/23. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Isaiah Washington (6-1, 175), DT Eran Anderson (6-2, 255), S Xavier Bautista (5-8, 145), CB Melvin Simien (6-1, 175), OL Matthew Ochoa (6-1, 220), TE Knowledge Gage (6-1, 250). Top juniors: LB Jayson Gallegos (5-9, 185), WR Artavion Davis (6-2, 175).

2025 notes: Milby had a breakthrough a year ago as the Buffs made the playoffs for the first time since 2000. In order to keep that momentum going, Milby will need some new faces to step in and be impact players. WR Washington (33-639, 10 TDs receiving) was a revelation last year as a sophomore and will lead the skill players after earning newcomer of the year honors. Puente says the offense will be young up front and they'll need to break in a new signal-caller. The defense could lead things early as six starters are back, led by a strong secondary with S Bautista (49 tackles, 3 INTs) and CB Simien (28 tackles, 2 INTs) as the headlines. "Our kids have always worked hard. The talent is starting to catch up and it is an exciting time for our program," said Puente.

SHARPSTOWN APOLLOS

Coach: Tre Perro. Lettermen R/L: 22/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 3-7/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB DeAndre Williams (5-9, 180, 4.6), LB Dominic Espinoza (5-8, 185, 4.5), LB Rafael Imani (5-10, 185, 4.6), OL Damian Olvera (5-8, 220), DL Camron Outlaw-Perry (6-2, 220, 4.8), DB Keindell Ester (5-7, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Marvion Farrington (6-2, 230).

Other prospects: DL Jesiah Bates, DB Cruz Valenzuela, DB Sharone Conner, WR Dustin Hicks, LB Angel Luna, RB Joseph Boose, WR Julio Hernandez.

2025 notes: The Apollos are under new leadership again — Perro, promoted from assistant head coach, takes over as the program's third coach in three years. QB Williams (1,115 yards, 9 TDs passing; 469 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is an explosive playmaker that will be the focal point of the Sharpstown spread offense. Westbrook expects the defense to make a big leap forward as a pair of linebackers in Espinoza (75 tackles, 26 TFL, 5 sacks, 1 INT) and Imani (57 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks, 1 INT) form the backbone of the 3-4 defensive scheme. DB Ester (30 tackles, 2 INTs) is the leader of a veteran secondary with great playmaking ability, according to the staff. Depth is still the biggest concern heading into fall camp.

SPRING WOODS TIGERS

Coach: Andrew Rohrs. Lettermen R/L: 18/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Nobel Thompsonel (5-8, 145, 4.7), LB Trevor Caylor (6-0, 190, 4.9), LB Jack LaFleur (6-0, 200, 4.9), OL Siaosi Patton (6-5, 390). Top sophomore: WR/DB Koryn Pleasant (6-0, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Chris Perez, RB/LB Manny Quiroz.

2025 notes: Rohrs enters his second season at the helm and although he says a good senior class has graduated, he thinks the Tigers have the ability to get into the playoffs. WR/DB Thompsonel (17-310, 1 TD receiving; 390 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 310 yards, 4 TDs passing; 4 INTs) does a little bit of everything as he plays WR, RB, QB, DB and returns kicks. The Spring Woods defense will be led by a pair of playmakers at LB in Caylor (57 tackles, 5 TFL, 1 sack) and LaFleur (90 tackles, 6 TFL, 1 sack). "We want to continue to build a strong rushing attack. Defensively, we played a lot of sophomores last year, so we are confident they will mature into key roles," said Rohrs.

STERLING RAIDERS

Coach: Dedreck Carr. Lettermen R/L: 16/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Wil Guevara (6-1, 250), LB Jacob Booth (5-11, 185, 4.6), CB Christopher Lucas (5-9, 170, 4.5), RB/DT Jadyon Joubert (5-8, 230, 4.9), ATH Kiabari Nwitu (6-1, 220, 4.6), ATH Jayson Hatton (5-7, 150, 4.5).

District 10-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Cary Clay, Galena Park

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jacob Booth, Houston Sterling

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Galena Park (1,885.5)
2. Houston Waltrip (1,668)
3. Houston Sterling (1,340)
4. Houston Westbury (2,263)
5. Houston Madison (1,897)
6. Houston Milby (2,190)
7. Houston Spring Woods (2,192)
8. Houston Sharpstown (1,797)
9. Houston Austin (1,320.5)

Other prospects: WR Makai Suds, WR Joseph Morales, QB Jaden Burton, ATH Corey McKinney.

2025 notes: The Raiders will aim for their seventh straight playoff berth under new coach Carr, who was promoted from passing game coordinator to HC. ATH Hatton ran for over 600 yards and eight touchdowns a year ago and could be a real threat at both RB and WR. OL Guevara is a three-year starter on the offensive line and the leader of that group. RB/DL Joubert was a major contributor on both sides of the ball as a freshman and will be a force on the defensive line and in short-yardage situations on offense. CB Lucas (5 INTs) is a playmaker in the secondary, while junior LB Booth (60 tackles, 8 sacks) is back after a strong sophomore season.

WALTRIP RAMS

Coach: Kris O'Neal. Lettermen R/L: 22/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kevion West (6-0, 170, 4.6), WR Eric Norris (5-8, 155, 4.6), DB Justin Henry (5-10, 165, 4.5), DT Christopher Grisham (6-1, 290), DB Connor Bray (5-9, 160, 4.7), RB Zyion Gamble (5-8, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: DB Keshawn Palmer, DE Zion Johnson, LB Reggie Tate.

2025 notes: The Rams were able to slip into the playoffs in O'Neal's first season at the helm. With 22 lettermen returning, he believes they can challenge for a district title. QB West (989 yards, 13 TDs passing; 1,063 yards, 12 TDs rushing) will lead the offense, while WR Norris (25-522 yards, 7 TDs receiving; 149 yards, 2 TDs rushing) will be his key weapon. Junior RB Gamble (204 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 130 yards, 1 TD receiving) could be ready to step in as the featured back. DT Grisham (19 tackles, 1 sack) will be the anchor on the defensive line, while DB Henry (44 tackles, 4 INTs) and DB Bray (17 tackles, 1 INT) will lead a veteran secondary.

WESTBURY HUSKIES

Coach: Jarvis Kelley. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jefferson Rivas Hernandez (5-11, 200, 4.6), WR/CB Torian Brown (5-10, 155, 4.6), RB/SS Dareus Hubbard (5-6, 170, 4.6), LB Elijah Eche (6-0, 205, 4.7), K Esteban Ramirez (5-5, 165), DB Dazhon Williams (5-7, 175, 4.6), LB Kenneth Trahan (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Deonte Hunter, CB Derrick Jones, WR/FS Christopher Flemings, CB Jaiden Crachain, RB/LB Jamal Bailey, QB Mehki Hopes.

2025 notes: The Huskies just missed out on the playoffs in their debut 5A season, but there's a feeling around campus that they can break through in 2025 as Kelley welcomes back 14 starters. There's some talent in the pipeline with youngsters from a 7-3 JV team ready to make an impact. RB/LB Rivas Hernandez (704 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 35 tackles, 5 TFL, 4 sacks) is a first-team all-district RB and an impact player for the defense. RB/SS Hubbard (517 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 53 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 INT) leads the secondary and can chip in on offense. The staff loves the potential of WR/CB Brown, who could emerge as an impact player.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 5A
HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 11-5A DI Preview

ANGLETON WILDCATS

Coach: Jason Brittain. Lettermen R/L: 34/31. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 13-2 state semifinalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Bryce Duron (5-11, 175, 4.6), DE Brynden Mack (6-3, 230), WR Kaleb Jammer (5-11, 165, 4.5), RB Wyatt Neyland (5-11, 205, 4.5), CB Kasen Jammer (5-10, 160, 4.5), S TraeVonne Latimer (5-10, 155, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Noah Ernst (6-3, 274), S Landon Miles (6-2, 185, 4.6). Top sophomore: ATH Ace Simple (5-6, 140, 4.5).

Other prospects: RB Travon Waddy, DL Gavin Hebert, WR Wesley Jackson, RB Jayden Moore, OL Charles Jones, OL Jackson Garrett, OL Bradley Walker, TE/DL Jackson DeAtley.

2025 notes: The Wildcats came up a game short of playing for a state title a year ago and if questions can be answered on defense, Brittain's squad is a contender to make it to Arlington. QB Duron (1,969 yards, 29 TDs passing; 317 yards, 8 TDs rushing) is a four-year varsity starter and will lead the pro-style offense once again. WR Jammer had four touchdown receptions in the first three games of the year before going down with an injury; his return will open the offense up as Angleton brings back plenty of experience on the offensive line. Angleton's secondary is plenty talented with the return of all-state DE Mack (62 tackles, 15 TFL, 9 sacks) and junior CB Jammer (38 tackles, 2 INTs), who was the district defensive newcomer of the year.

CROSBY COUGARS

Coach: Joe Willis. Lettermen R/L: 28/18. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Lott Robison (6-0, 215, 4.8), ATH Josh Jackson (5-8, 180, 4.8), TE Landon Hammer (6-3, 220, 4.9), DL Jeffery Curette (5-9, 240), CB Bryson Bass (5-9, 150, 4.5), OL Gavin Ramirez (6-0, 255). Top juniors: ATH T'Zion Sutherland (5-10, 180, 4.7), DB Javien Powell (5-10, 175, 4.9). Top sophomore: LB Camrun Taylor (5-8, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Ashton Lamelle, DL Kohlbein Cannon.

2025 notes: After struggling in Willis' first season at the helm, Crosby bounced back with a playoff appearance a year ago. With 14 starters back, don't be surprised if Crosby shows improvement in 2025. QB Robison (542 yards, 5 TDs passing) split time last year and will take over the controls of the spread offense. Junior ATH Jackson (128 yards, 1 TD rushing; 22-223, 3 TDs receiving; 12 tackles) is a dynamic two-way player with big upside. Senior DL Curette was the co-defensive lineman of the year in 11-5A Division I and will be the anchor of the Crosby defensive line. Willis says a lack of size in the trenches and overall team speed are question marks going into fall camp.

FRIENDSWOOD MUSTANGS

Coach: Jordan Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 22/23. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Noah Abebe (6-5, 285), TE/DE Jordyn Crites (6-6, 245), DT Jacob Molina (5-11, 255). Top juniors: QB Josh Brister (6-4, 215), RB Tripp Bateman (5-9, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Gianni Gerami, CB Austin Cain, OLB Garrison McElwain, HB Ty Rudolph, S Ammon Van Weorkem.

2025 notes: The Mustangs were able to sneak into the playoffs a year ago and if a repeat is in the cards, a lot of new faces will need to step up for Johnson's squad. The offensive line will be a strength with the return of OL Abebe and TE/DE Crites, who also may see extended time on the defensive side of the ball. A pair of juniors will be big contributors at the skill spots on offense, as QB Brister and RB Bateman (348 yards, 2 TDs rushing) will be counted upon to step up. Johnson says inexperience in the

secondary is one of the big question marks for the Mustangs heading into 2025.

KEMPNER COUGARS

Coach: Troy DeGar. Lettermen R/L: 27/28. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 4-6/1-6 district.

Players to watch: TE Ayo Afolabi (6-2, 190, 4.6), RB Makai Jenkins (5-8, 165, 4.5), DE Deante Williams (6-3, 220, 4.8), WR/DB Joneldred Denman (6-1, 165, 4.5), LB Elijah Williams (5-10, 195, 4.6), QB Troy DeGar (6-0, 155, 4.8). Top junior: WR Donnie Avery Jr. (5-10, 145, 4.4). Top sophomore: DL Davontre Wiley (6-3, 230, 4.9).

Other prospects: CB Samuel Menka, DL Rex Dike, OL Christopher Williams, LB Olu Danmola.

2025 notes: After starting the season 3-0, the Cougars dropped six of seven district games, a disappointing end to a promising start. Coach DeGar is hopeful 2025 is the year Kempner can break through and nab its first playoff spot since 2016. There is some veteran experience at the skill spots returning with TE Afolabi (22-245, 2 TDs receiving) and RB Jenkins (555 yards, 3 TDs rushing). Junior QB DeGar (198 yards, 1 TD passing) will take over full-time leading Kempner's multiple offense. Junior DE Deante Williams (45 tackles) and junior LB Elijah Williams (28 tackles) will be the leaders of the defense after solid sophomore campaigns, while WR/DB Denman will likely be counted on to make plays on both sides of the ball.

KINGWOOD PARK PANTHERS

Coach: Clayton Maple. Lettermen R/L: 18/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Player to watch: WR Kye Wehby (5-8, 165). Top juniors: DB Elliott Warren (5-11, 180), OL Ayden Britton (6-5, 310). Top sophomore: QB Jon Pavlatos (6-2, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Cooper Wolocko, WR Dane Solomon, ATH Bryce Gerbasich, TE/LB Luke Elliott, OL/DL Jeremy Serafini, DL Landon Jones, WR/DB Cooper Robinson, DL Gavin Cooper.

2025 notes: The Panthers fell just short of the playoffs, and heading into 2025, there's a bit of a mixed bag if you are a Kingwood Park fan. The bad news is 34 seniors graduated and this year's team will be young. The good news is those young players from a 9-1 JV squad have plenty of talent. One returning standout is WR Wehby (60-539, 6 TDs receiving), who is a first-team all-district selection and the leading returning receiver in 11-5A Division I. Sophomore QB Pavlatos is a talented young prospect who could be tasked with taking over the offense in 2025, while big things are also expected from junior OL Britton. The defense is led by stalwart junior DB Warren, who has good speed and coverage ability.

LA PORTE BULLDOGS

Coach: Kevin Berneathy. Lettermen R/L: 31/25. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 10-4 region finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Sean Simon (5-11, 195), WR Peyton Smith (6-2, 180), LB Ashton Ruffin (5-10, 205), S Blake Stout (5-10, 175), OL Jake Hayman (6-3, 315), DL Luke Mora (6-2, 295). Top juniors: LB Caden Watson (6-2, 205), TE Ryker Reynolds (6-3, 235). Top sophomore: QB Josh Wells (6-2, 170).

Other prospects: QB Aiden Saenz, DL David Campos, RB/DB Kylen Carter, LB Raymond Gibbs, DB Tryston Oaks, OL Grady Ferranti, WR Dyson Godbolt-Carr, DL Jacob Berneathy.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs had a breakthrough season with a district title and regional final run before falling to district rival Angleton. Berneathy's squad could be ready to challenge for a state title with seven starters back on both sides of the ball, headlined by sophomore RB Simon (1,609 yards, 21 TDs rushing), who could develop into one of the nation's top ball carriers.

District 11-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Sean Simon, La Porte

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Brynden Mack, Angleton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. La Porte (2,249)
2. Angleton (2,177)
3. Friendswood (1,956.5)
4. Crosby (2,090)
5. Humble Kingwood Park (1,918.5)
6. New Caney Porter (2,144)
7. Fort Bend Kempner (1,911)
8. Pasadena (2,261.5)

WR Smith (15-280, 2 TDs receiving) is another sophomore that will likely emerge as a Power Four recruit. OL Hayman, a three-year starter, and TE Reynolds, who has started since his freshman season, are both dominant run blockers. LB Ruffin (90 tackles, 10 TFL) and S Stout (80 tackles, 3 INTs) lead a fast and physical defensive unit. The biggest question mark for La Porte will be youth and inexperience in the secondary.

PASADENA EAGLES

Coach: David Zapien. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 1-9/2-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Shaun Aguirre (5-9, 160, 4.6), RB Corrian Davis (5-9, 140, 4.6), WR Martellis Mosley (5-9, 150, 4.7), DL Oscar Rosales (6-0, 200, 4.7).

Other prospect: SS Donte Miller.

2025 notes: Long-struggling Pasadena High didn't find its first year in Class 5A to be very welcoming, as the Eagles finished at the bottom of the district standings. The good news is Zapien welcomes back eight starters on offense, so PHS expects to be improved on that side of the ball. There are, however, questions on defense with just five starters back. QB Aguirre got thrown into the fire last year as a freshman and will return to lead the offense. RB Davis and junior WR Mosley are back to lead the way at the skill spots. Junior DL Rosales will lead a young defense after he impressed last year as a sophomore. Zapien says the biggest concerns for the Eagles will be youth and depth in the trenches on both sides of the ball.

PORTER SPARTANS

Coach: Billy Russell. Lettermen R/L: 15/38. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Stone Singletary (6-0, 185, 4.5), CB Jalen Richard (6-0, 175, 4.5), FS Zachary Boudreaux (5-7, 160, 4.6), OL Landon Labrecque (5-8, 265), WR Zamarion King (6-0, 170, 4.6), DE Sergio Castaneda (6-0, 230). Top juniors: LB Braylin Benson (6-0, 185, 4.9), LB Garrett Lawson (5-9, 185, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Donnaven Gautier (5-8, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Oscar Barrientos, ATH Michael Flores, CB Gerard Huddleston, DL Victor Paz, K Bretton Battenfield, WR JJ Birdow, WR Keion McZeal, LB Matthew Cline.

2025 notes: After a 3-3 start, the Spartans stumbled down the stretch in 2024 dropping their last four games to finish out of the playoff race. QB Singletary (630 yards, 7 TDs passing; 658 yards, 7 TDs rushing) and the Spartans offense hope to play a key role in getting Porter back in playoff contention. Junior WR King (16-280, 2 TDs receiving) headlines what Russell says will be an athletic group of skill players. CB Richard and FS Boudreaux (61 tackles, 2 INTs) are dynamic playmakers for the secondary, while DE Castaneda (21 tackles, 1 sack) will be asked to provide leadership for a young defensive line.

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 12-5A DI Preview

A&M CONSOLIDATED TIGERS

Coach: Brandon Schmidt. Lettermen R/L: 30/34. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 12-1 region semifinalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Ja'Marlon Mooring (6-0, 190, 4.6), DB/WR Simon Starks (5-11, 160, 4.5), DL Wyatt Beavers (6-2, 230, 4.8), WR/DB Darius Roberts (6-0, 190, 4.5), LB Riley O'Bannon (6-1, 205, 4.8), DL Tahjarian Rucker (6-4, 200, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Leo Befort (5-10, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Jaxon Solomon (5-11, 185, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Braylen Dickson (6-2, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Josiah Blanco, OL Judson Brown, DL Myles Riggs, WR/DB Cooper Johnson, RB Camron Roston, LB Hagin Chmelar, QB/LB Jayden Mullenburg, LB Ethan Walton.

2025 notes: The 2025 Tigers may prove that if you can run the ball and stop the run, you can go a long way. Schmidt's team welcomes back RB Mooring (754 rushing yards, 10 TDs), who will team with QB Mullenburg (1,194 passing yards, 22 total TDs) to keep opposing defenses on their heels behind blocking from returning OLs Blanco and Brown. Along with DL Beavers (39 tackles), the Tigers are loaded at linebacker with the likes of O'Bannon (75 tackles, 3 INTs), Befort (40 tackles, 3 sacks), Chmelar and Walton. DL Rucker (55 tackles, 4 sacks) brings effective pressure off the edge. DB/WR Starks (36 tackles) is a lockdown corner and key to a secondary that also welcomes back DB/WRs Solomon and Johnson.

ANDERSON TROJANS

Coach: Donald Hatcher. Lettermen R/L: 38/31. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Jay Fullmer (5-10, 170), WR Benjamin Hatcher (5-11, 185), LB Liam McMillian (6-0, 225), DL River Anderson (5-11, 230), DB Yaheim Riley (6-1, 175), RB Caleb Crenshaw (5-10, 185). Top juniors: OL Jay Grey (6-1, 250), QB Cove Darbyshire (6-2, 210). Top sophomore: DL Matyas Levine (5-8, 235).

Other prospects: LB Hodges Smith, DB Alex Longoria, DB Grayson Lake, TE/DL Calvin Ballinger, OL/DL Elias O'Keefe, QB/WR Mason Randolph, K Ryan Ostboe, DL Max Middleton.

2025 notes: The Trojans tasted postseason play in their first year back at 5A thanks to an explosive offense. This year's team still has lofty goals but might go about achieving them differently thanks to some key offensive losses and eight returning defensive starters, led by LBs McMillian (74 tackles, 6 sacks) and Smith (81 tackles), DLs Anderson (44 tackles, 6 sacks) and Middleton (43 tackles), and DB Riley (74 tackles, 3 INTs). The offensive cupboard is far from bare despite graduating FBS prospects at QB and WR. RBs Crenshaw (1,100 yards rushing, 22 TDs) and Fullmer (938 yards rushing, 8 TDs) return, as does WR Hatcher (556 yards receiving, 4 TDs). OLs Grey and O'Keefe will help new QBs Darbyshire and Randolph settle in.

CEDAR CREEK EAGLES

Coach: Jared Shaw. Lettermen R/L: 31/20. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 0-10.

Players to watch: DB Dylan Redmon (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Isaiah Cancino (5-10, 190, 4.7), RB Anthony Scott, WR Kaleb Dowell (6-3, 190, 4.6), OL Lance Jaramillo (6-5, 330, 5.0), DB Jaden Gonzalez, DB Jonathan James, ATH Dereon Jones (5-9, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Alejandro Flores, DL Johnsy Pasco, WR Richard Torres, DB/LB Matthew Chen, ATH Dalton Whited, ATH Elijah Fackler, DL Roman Martinez, OL Felipe Constante.

2025 Notes: As new coach Shaw takes over, he'll look to move things in a positive direction through a defense-first philosophy. DB Redmon (61 tackles, 2 INTs) and LB Cancino (75 tackles) will be the main building blocks. DBs Gonzalez (35 tackles) and James have earned more significant roles. Up front, junior DLs Flores and Pasco look to expand on the experience they gained last year. The OL trio of Jaramillo, Martinez and Constante will pave the way for speedy RB Scott (266 yards, 2 TDs rushing). WRs Dowell (229 yards receiving) and Torres bring back experience on the outside. While he builds toward success for a program looking for its first win since 2021, Shaw works to instill foundational hallmarks of discipline, toughness, effort and honor.

COLLEGE STATION COUGARS

Coach: Stoney Pryor. Lettermen R/L: 25/50. Starters Returning O/D: 5/4. 11-2 region semifinalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Cole Flanagan (6-1, 205), DL Davis Gardner (6-1, 220), WR Zak Cosser (5-11, 165, 4.5), OL Bo Barrett (6-3, 250, 5.0), OL Jeremiah Gonzales (5-10, 225), OL Clayton Brod (5-10, 225), DL Zahron Benford (6-3, 245, 4.8), DB Kai Bell (5-11, 170), ATH Trey Walton, WR Kash Adams, WR Kody Ballard, WR Grady Pryor, LB Zan Stevens, LB/DB Cade Locklear, K Gustavo Lopez, WR Wes Dennard.

2025 notes: The Cougars have won at least 10 games every season since 2020, and that mark may be put to the test as Pryor's team looks to reload. With questions at key spots on offense and defense, how quickly a talented junior class emerges might define the Cougars' ceiling. LB Flanagan (120 tackles, 7 sacks) does return to anchor a defense that also features DL Gardner (70 tackles, 7 sacks), DL Benford (32 tackles) and DB Bell (39 tackles, 2 INTs) are among the juniors who'll see their roles expand. The offense can build around returning OLs Barrett, Gonzales and Brod, and explosive WR Cosser (864 yards receiving, 14 TDs), a speedster who can stretch the field, will also be a threat.

HAYS REBELS

Coach: Mark Torres. Lettermen R/L: 24/21. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: DB Kai Triche (5-11, 185, 4.5), OL Isaiah Bland (6-1, 230, 4.9), ATH Eyan Stigall (5-9, 170, 4.5), WR Markell Burks (5-11, 170, 4.6), WR Layton Fuentes (5-11, 150, 4.7), LB Alexander Silva (5-8, 195, 4.8), RB Gabriel Peach (5-8, 160, 4.6), WR Jayden Gingrow (5-10, 150, 4.8), QB Tacoma Ames, ATH Anthony Hernandez, DL Erik Reusing, RB/LB Nate Roland, OL/DL Caleb Roland, ATH Ethan Aguirre, DL/OL Kiefer Patterson, OL Tristan Fox-Murrie.

2025 notes: With a full year in his system under the Hawks' collective belts, Torres expects his team to be in the thick of the playoff hunt. Offensively, eight starters return after transitioning from the Slot-T to a spread, including QB Ames (1,298 yards passing, 12 TDs). He'll benefit from another year throwing to WRs Burks, Fuentes (494 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and Gingrow (332 yards receiving). ATH Hernandez (741 yards, 10 TDs rushing) and RB Peach will figure heavily when the Hawks stick to the ground. OLs Bland, Roland, Fox-Murrie and Patterson will be key. Defensively, DB Triche (78 tackles) and ATH Stigall (47 tackles as a freshman) will lead the secondary. LB Silva (71 tackles) and DL Reusing (48 tackles) are anchors, as well.

HENDRICKSON HAWKS

Coach: Doug Pearce. Lettermen R/L: 31/25. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Maddox Quiller (6-1, 205, 4.6), OL Adarius Hines (6-5, 305, 5.5), LB Carnell Spicer (5-11, 195, 4.7), WR Trevor Morgan (5-8, 165, 4.5), DL Zaybrien Brown (6-0, 205, 5.1), RB Artis Duncan (5-8, 185, 4.5), WR Brayden Mueller (6-2, 160, 4.7), TE Hunter Hicks (6-0, 190, 4.8), WR Jonathan Greene (5-7, 160, 4.4), RB/LB Brody Martinka, LB/RB Brandon Mosley, OL Isaiah Petty, QB Pete Vallejo.

2025 notes: After taking a step forward in 2024, Pearce expects his Hawks will fly higher thanks to an experienced group. Defensively, the top two tacklers — DB Quiller and LB Spicer — return for a group looking to cut down on the points it allows for the fourth straight season. DL Brown is a disruptor in the trenches. Offensively, Hendrickson could be more dynamic thanks to the presence of OL Hines, who has started since his freshman season and hasn't allowed a sack yet. He'll give new QB Vallejo time to develop while RB Duncan and WRs Morgan, Muller and Greene and TE Hicks do most of the heavy lifting.

LEHMAN LOBOS

Coach: Chris Castillo. Lettermen R/L: 33/12. Starters returning O/D: 11/10. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Nian Guzman (5-10, 160, 4.6), RB Zayne Barber (5-6, 195, 4.7), DL Asher McCain (6-1, 250, 5.3), QB Gunner Winiecki (6-0, 150, 4.6), LB Josiah Espinosa (5-10, 190, 4.7), WR David Rivera (6-2, 150, 4.6), LB Nick Crawford (5-8, 165,

District 12-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jaxon Schad, Pflugerville Weiss

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Cole Flanagan, College Station

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. College Station (2,209)
2. A&M Consolidated (2,176)
3. Pflugerville Weiss (1,994)
4. Austin Anderson (2,167)
5. Pflugerville Hendrickson (2,108)
6. Buda Hays Consolidated (2,184)
7. Lockhart (2,078)
8. Kyle Lehman (2,143)
9. Bastrop Cedar Creek (2,123)

4.5), DL Sean Miller (5-10, 225, 4.9).

2025 notes: Perspective can be a wonderful thing, and Castillo has it for his still-growing program. The 2024 season, while rough, brought two key results: a young team got experience, and those returning players are eager to take a positive step forward. QB Winiecki (816 yards passing), RB Barber (602 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and WRs Guzman and Rivera are athletic pieces with speed to punish defenses. DLs McCain (25 tackles) and Miller will be counted on at the point of attack to occupy blockers so LBs Espinosa (46 tackles, 4 sacks) and Crawford can make plays from sideline-to-sideline.

LOCKHART LIONS

Coach: Mike Maldonado. Lettermen R/L: 20/10. Starters Returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Kaidyn Brite (6-1, 175, 4.5), DB/WR Bob Estrada (6-2, 165, 4.5), DB Ayden Scott (5-11, 165, 4.6), OL Joe Johnson (6-1, 275, 5.3), DB Dylan White (5-8, 165, 4.5), LB Miguel Portillo (5-10, 185, 4.6), DB Avery Ybarra (5-9, 165, 4.6), OL Dylan Ovalle, RB/DL Malik Hill, OL Saul Hinojos, DL Julian Benavidez, LB Joseph Zurita, K/P Evan Estrada, WR Wes Abel.

2025 notes: New coach Maldonado, formerly Leander Rouse's DC, will rely on an experienced group of returning players. LB/WR Roland-Brite (61 tackles, 4 sacks) leads a unit that also returns LBs Portillo (80 tackles, 3 sacks) and Zurita (74 tackles), speedy DBs Estrada (42 tackles), Scott (112 tackles), White, who excelled in coverage, and Ybarra (37 tackles). OLs Ovalle and Hinojos anchor an offense that will need to develop a new quarterback. WR Abel (122 yards receiving) brings experience back to the offense, but several defensive leaders may need to fill key offensive spots, including RB/DL Hill.

WEISS WOLVES

Coach: Malcolm Hill. Lettermen R/L: 27/25. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jaxon Schad (5-11, 170, 4.6), WR Tre Moore (6-4, 205, 4.5), WR Daniel Berry (5-9, 180, 4.4), OL Jerald Mays (6-3, 300, 5.0), DB Jorian Guinn (5-9, 175, 4.5), RB Garrett Stennett (5-11, 175, 4.5), LB Noah McPeak (6-0, 185, 4.5), DL Tyler Hall (6-1, 255, 4.8), WR/DB Tylan Henderson (6-1, 200, 4.5), RB Nick Johnson, DL D'Arryeon Houston, OL/DL Marques Libby, DB Kaiden Haynes, OL/DL Joshua Austin, DL Reagan Smith, WR Jordan Ibn-Anderson.

2025 notes: New coach Hill, formerly Prosper's OC, takes over. QB Schad (2,689 passing yards, 32 TDs) was forced into action for the opener and dazzled as a freshman. Now a wise old sophomore, he'll look to build on that success while throwing to WRs Moore (562 receiving yards, 6 TDs) and Berry (706 receiving yards, 8 TDs) behind protection from FBS prospect OL Mays. RB Johnson (1,049 rushing yards, 13 TDs) provides the balance to keep defenses honest. Defensively, LB McPeak (77 tackles, 2 sacks) anchors a unit that looks to improve. DBs Haynes (30 tackles, 4 INTs), Guinn (76 tackles, 3 INTs) and Stennett (63 tackles) are a proven secondary. DLs Hall (32 tackles) and Houston (32 tackles) also return up front.

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 13-5A DI Preview

CHAMPION CHARGERS

Coach: Blaine Ellis. Lettermen R/L: 28/42. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-5/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Julian Navarrete, WR William Burgess, LB Roman Flugence, OL Walker Affeldt, LB Alex Sansone. Top sophomore: Axton White.

Other prospects: OL Jaxon Marquardt, RB Zach Garcia, OL Carter Jenkins, WR Zachary Lopez, DB Garland Whitehead, DL Seth Wood, DL Hudson Thrash, DB Brooks Warrick.

2025 notes: The Chargers are looking to get back to the playoffs after missing them for the second time in three seasons. QB Navarrete (2,670 yards, 28 TDs passing; 207 yards rushing) is a blossoming talent who was named the San Antonio Express-News Newcomer of the Year as a sophomore. WRs Burgess (552 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and Dempsey (920 yards, 12 TDs) are reliable targets. LBs Flugence (64 tackles) and Sansone (30 tackles, 2 sacks) return as the team's leaders on defense. Although the Chargers have a lot of roles to fill, Ellis believes the Chargers will be in the running for a playoff spot.

MacARTHUR BRAHMAS

Coach: Jordon Ricker. Lettermen R/L: 14/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Trevin Cherrington (5-9, 175, 4.6), DL Jake Bonham (6-0, 220 5.0), QB Trey Richmond (6-1, 180, 4.9), DB/WR Theodore Abraham (5-9, 160, 4.7), LB Jose Aguinaga (5-9, 190, 5.2), OL Robert Lyon (5-10, 205, 5.7). Top juniors: LB Damian Valdez (5-7, 150, 4.9), TE Andy Mendoza (6-0, 175, 4.9). Top sophomore: DB Tanner Bean (5-9, 160).

Other prospects: DB Isaac Heath, OL Kenaury Sanchez, DB Joshua Clay, DB/WR Kellen Polansky, OL Michael Thomas, WR Jayden Williams, LB Lindon Schaefer, LB Carson Lacott.

2025 notes: Coach Ricker returns to his alma mater for his first stint as a head coach after previously serving as the defensive coordinator at San Antonio Alamo Heights for five years. He is eager to turn around the Brahmas' fortunes after they've gone 7-62 over the last seven years and last made the playoffs in 2017. It's going to take some time, Ricker said, to learn a new system in a competitive district. LBs Cherrington (40 tackles) and Aguinaga (14 tackles) lead the way on defense, along with DL Bonham.

NEW BRAUNFELS UNICORNS

Coach: Brad Molder. Lettermen R/L: 32/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Cayden Mills (6-0, 150, 4.6), RB Brock Stewart (5-6, 165, 4.7), OL Ayden Rico (6-2, 305, 5.3), OL Carter Jackson (6-2, 265, 5.3). Top junior: LB Rocco Desanto (5-8, 190, 4.8).

Other prospects: TE Lyric Lalley, WR Cameron Pitts, DB Landin Jackson, DL Anthony Nunez, DL John Ford, WR Brody Klotz.

2025 notes: Coach Molder believes the Unicorns will be stronger overall, but they will need to identify a starting quarterback. That will be a key job as the Unicorns possess one of the San Antonio area's most dynamic athletes in WR Mills (1,218 yards, 15 TDs receiving). RB Stewart (861 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is ready to build on a solid sophomore season. The Unicorns return two big pieces in OLs Rico and Jackson, who started all of their games last season. New Braunfels will need to fill gaps on defense. DL Nunez (77 tackles) returns as the leading tackler. LB Desario showed a lot of promise as a sophomore in 2024. If they put those things

together, the Unicorns will be in the mix for a playoff spot in a very tough district.

PIEPER WARRIORS

Coach: Nick Rogers. Lettermen R/L: 34/40. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Brady Hopper (5-9, 215, 4.6), DL Thor Myklebust (6-1, 245, 4.8), OL John Como (6-5, 290, 5.1), DB Raja Lopez (5-9, 185, 4.6), LB Laeton Springer (5-10, 195, 4.7), DB Bennett King (5-8, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR Carson Lacombe (6-3, 185, 4.5).

2025 notes: The Warriors will lean on their talented defense while they search to fill key positions on offense, including quarterback. LB Springer (78 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks) and DL Myklebust (51 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) are among the best in the San Antonio area. The Warriors' defense, as a whole, has a big senior class with a lot of experience. That also includes DBs Lopez (70 tackles, 5 TFL, 3 INTs) and King (76 tackles, 6 TFL). RB Hopper (646 yards, 13 TDs rushing; 302 yards, 2 TDs passing) is a third-year starter who is a threat to catch out of the backfield. The biggest challenge is finding a replacement for QB Cayden Keeth, now at Houston Christian, who passed for more than 3,600 yards and 44 TDs.

SEGUIN MATADORS

Coach: Craig Dailey. Lettermen R/L: 21/26. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Corey Dailey (6-7, 185, 4.9), WR Ayden Avila (6-2, 175, 4.6), RB Ian Moreno (5-7, 165, 4.5), WR Elliot Weaver (6-1, 190, 4.5), LB Damian Garcia (6-0, 200, 4.8), DL Hunter Mica (5-9, 240, 5.0). Top juniors: DB Griffin Welfel (6-0, 180, 4.6), TE Tyler Trevino (6-3, 195, 4.7). Top sophomore: DB/QB Jackson Kirchner (6-1, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Daniel Pinon, DB Marcus Troy, OL Jordan Miller, LB Julius Rivera, DB Kaiden De La Garza.

2025 notes: Coach Dailey said the success of the program depends on how much growth the players show in offseason work. The Matadors retained top talent in the offensive skill positions to go with senior QB Dailey (2,529 yards, 35 TDs passing; 6 TDs rushing), who has started since his freshman season and is a rising college football recruit. WR Avila (547 yards, 6 TDs receiving) is also gaining momentum on recruiting radars. RB Moreno (1,273 yards, 8 TDs rushing) balances out the offense. WR Weaver is a speedster who has missed the last two seasons with injuries. LB Garcia (57 tackles, 1 INTs) and DL Hunter Mica (50 tackles) lead the defense.

SMITHSON VALLEY RANGERS

Coach: Larry Hill. Lettermen R/L: 40/22. Starters returning O/D: 2/8. 2024: 14-2 state champion/6-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Hudson Woods (6-4, 230, 4.5), DL Justin Roberts (6-2, 275, 5.0), K/P Trent Amaya (5-10, 170, 4.7), OL/TE Ayden Verette (6-2, 240, 4.9), LB Colton Hornsby (6-0, 190, 4.7), DL Kyle Bierman (6-2, 215, 4.8). Top juniors: LB/RB Caleb Peagler (5-11, 195, 4.6), DB/WR Hunter Haug (6-2, 185, 4.4).

Other prospects: DL Caleb Barrow, OL Kyle Gugliotti, DB Liam Magee.

2025 notes: The reigning Class 5A Division I state champions will rely on defense early as work begins to rebuild key possessions on offense. DL Woods (66 tackles, 13 sacks), the 2024 San Antonio Express-News Defensive Player of the Year, leads the way with DL Roberts, (79 tackles, 4 sacks), DL Bierman

District 13-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Cayden Mills, New Braunfels

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Hudson Woods, Smithson Valley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Smithson Valley (2,075)
2. San Antonio Pieper (1,980)
3. New Braunfels (2,139)
4. Boerne Champion (2,071)
5. Seguin (2,181)
6. San Antonio Wagner (2,203)
7. Victoria East (2,044)
8. San Antonio MacArthur (2,027)

(47 tackles, 5 sacks) and LB Hornsby (152 tackles) on the front seven. LB/RB Peagler (131 tackles; 327 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and DB/WR Haug (67 tackles, 3 INTs; 153 yards, 3 TDs receiving) are key two-way players. Haug is a playmaker on defense with two touchdowns on that side of the ball. Junior QB Ty Kuntson (1,070 yards, 7 TDs passing) gained some valuable experience last year, going in every third series to give two-way starter Cade Spradling a breather, as he also played linebacker.

VICTORIA EAST TITANS

Coach: John Ford. Lettermen R/L: 12/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: LB Caleb Alvarez (5-10, 192, 4.7), LB Noah Sheppard (6-0, 192, 4.9), DL Kahliel Prater (6-1, 205, 4.6), RB Breshawn Stafford (5-11, 190, 4.6), OL Danin Mejia (5-10, 260, 5.1), OL Mason Mendoza (6-3, 300, 5.3). Top juniors: ATH Carlton Helms (5-11, 175, 4.5), OL Zalerion Jones (6-1, 315, 5.3).

2025 notes: The Titans knew the first season in their new district would be one of adjustments. Despite getting only two wins, they were in range of winning three games, which would have secured a playoff spot. With Allen Salena moving from Calhoun to take charge of the defense, the Titans will move to a three-man front, which should play to the advantage of DL Prater (64 tackles, 5 sacks) and LBs Alvarez (80 tackles, 2 sacks) and Sheppard (75 tackles, 2 sacks). Helms (350 yards, 5 TDs passing; 350 yards, 7 TDs rushing) begins his third year on varsity and could take over at QB.

WAGNER THUNDERBIRDS

Coach: Jason Starin. Lettermen R/L: 18/26. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 3-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DL Ebubekukwu Charlesnankwo (6-2, 270, 5.6), OL La'Troy Bradford (6-4, 305, 5.8), OL Ervin Houston (6-5, 280, 5.7), OL Demontae Drummer (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Immanuel James (5-8, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: Jeremiah Cruz (5-10, 160, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Thunderbirds will need to rebuild quickly in order to compete in a very tough district after graduating their best defensive players (Ke'Von Carter, Azario Brooks) and offensive players (Charles Mondy, Williams Reynolds). Experience and depth will be the biggest hurdles to overcome. Wagner's strength lies in the trenches with OLs Bradford and Houston. DL Charlesnankwo has a lot of upside. LBs Drummer (35 tackles, 3 TFL) and James (15 tackles) round out the Thunderbirds' most experienced players. The Thunderbirds' top offensive returners, RB Xavier Luera and QB Noah Barbosa, combined for 72 total yards in 2024.

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 14-5A DI Preview

CIGARROA TOROS

Coach: Cairo Hein. Lettermen R/L: 22/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Armando Mata (5-8, 145, 4.8), LB Cris Covarrubias (5-10, 180, 5.0), OL Jose Torres (6-2, 250, 5.4).

Other prospect: OL Carlos Perez.

2025 notes: The Toros return a solid core as they search for their first win since 2022. Hein believes a balanced offense is key. QB Mata (606 yards, 4 TDs rushing) leads the spread offense. RB Armando Mata and WR Jonathan Dominguez are key skill players. OLs Torres and Perez are key returnees on the offensive line. LB Covarrubias (41 tackles) leads the defense. The Toros' youth in the secondary is a concern.

JAY MUSTANGS

Coach: Gary Gutierrez. Lettermen R/L: 15/30. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Tajari Wellington (5-11, 185, 4.8), LB/RB Kyle Jackson (6-0, 195, 4.6), LB/QB Victor Baldwin (5-10, 190, 4.8), DB/RB Chris Balderas (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Danny Orosco (5-9, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Chris Mann (6-2, 315, 5.3), OL Gabriel Aguirre (6-1, 300, 5.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Wallace Wellington, DB/WR Samuel Mann, LB/RB Mario Cardenas.

2025 notes: The Mustangs have a chance to make the playoffs for a third-straight season, which they have never done before. To do that, they'll have to fill a lot of holes. Gutierrez lists inexperience as a concern. Luckily for them, quarterback is not one of them. Tajari Wellington (735 yards, 9 TDs passing) returns as the top offensive player. Proven offensive weapons drop off considerably with RB/DB Balderas (73 yards rusher) as the top returning ground gainer; he added an interception on defense last year. LB Jackson (90 tackles, 1 sack) is the Mustangs' top returning defender. LB Baldwin (74 tackles, 1 sack) was a big contributor on defense last season.

MARTIN TIGERS

Coach: David Charles. Lettermen R/L: 16/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Gabriel Hutton (5-11, 175, 4.7), OL Jose Vega (5-8, 240, 5.0), LB Neal Dillard (5-9, 190, 4.9), DB Christopher Turgeon (5-8, 160, 4.8), QB Rolando Charles (6-5, 210, 4.9). Top junior: LB Frankie Cantu (5-8, 170, 4.8).

2025 notes: Coach Charles said his team's talent is there, but depth is a concern. He said the team's work ethic will help overcome any deficits the team carries into the season. The Tigers are searching for their first winning season since 2019 and their second postseason appearance in the last six years. LB Neal Dillard is a two-time all-district selection. LB Cantu was the district's newcomer of the year.

NIXON MUSTANGS

Coach: Benny Cabello. Lettermen R/L: 16/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Salinas (5-9, 165, 4.9), RB Emiliano Hernandez (5-10, 185, 4.9), WR Hugo Ramos (6-1, 165, 4.8), LB Pablo De Leon (5-10, 160, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR Mateo Hernandez (5-8, 150, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Franko Cruz, WR/DB Chris Rodriguez, WR Diego Hernandez, LB Oscar Montemayor, LB Ramon Hernandez, DL Julien Garcia, DB Eddie Munoz, DB David Cedillo.

2025 notes: The Mustangs hope experience at key positions will help them land in the playoffs for the first time since 2017. QB Salinas (1,824 yards, 15 TDs passing; 384 yards, 6 TDs rushing) looks to build on a strong sophomore season. RB Hernandez (504 yards rushing) and WR Ramos (597 yards, 5 TDs receiving) are big returners at the skilled positions. All three linebackers return, led by De Leon (101

tackles), Hernandez (3 sacks) and Montemayor. DB Cedillo (2 INTs) leads the secondary. The biggest concern is filling the gaps on the defensive line. Overall depth might be an issue with only 16 returning from a team that lost 12.

SOUTH SAN ANTONIO BOBCATS

Coach: Phil Barron III. Lettermen R/L: 35/21. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Alex Flores (5-8, 190, 4.8), DL Braydon Booth (6-5, 210, 4.5), DL Cash Winters (6-5, 215, 4.9), DB/WR Noah Mendez (5-10, 175, 4.6), DB Pancho Garcia (5-8, 165, 4.6), OL Malaki Cruz (6-4, 290, 5.4). Top juniors: OL Jake Miera (5-10, 270, 5.5), DB Cayden Riojas (6-0, 175, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Jacob Sepeda (5-9, 160, 4.9).

Other prospects: WR Isaiah Hinds, WR Julius Martinez, WR Ethan Segura, OL Brandon Fischer, TE/LB Ethan Garza.

2025 notes: Barron expects bigger things from a team that had its best season since 1998 when the Bobcats won 12 games because of a strong senior group. RB Flores (1,426 yards, 16 TDs rushing) will carry the load on offense. OL Fischer was the district's lineman of the year. He anchors the line with Cruz and Miera, and they will pave the way for Flores. WR Hinds (300 yards, 6 TDs receiving) has playmaking ability. WR Martinez (200 yards receiving) provides valuable depth. QB Sepeda is in the mix as the starting signal caller as a sophomore. DB Mendez (69 tackles, 2 INTs) is the team's leader on defense. DL Booth is considered a strong college football candidate after a breakthrough sophomore season.

SOUTHSIDE CARDINALS

Coach: Ricky Lock. Lettermen R/L: 23/14. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 3-7/3-5 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Alejandro Casas (6-0, 215), OL/DL Fabian Varela-Torres (6-0, 220), TE/LB Maddux Salazar (5-11, 210), RB/DB Joeljah Pritchard (5-9, 165), LB/RB Arturo Banda (5-10, 160), WR/DB Jayden Iglesias (5-9, 160). Top juniors: OL/DL Edgar Vazquez (6-0, 270), OL/DL Juan Alanis (6-2, 260). Top sophomore: WR/DB Oscar Sanchez (5-10, 160).

Other prospects: OL/DL Alexander Garcia, RB/LB Nathan Mosqueda, WR/DB Jesus Morales, OL/DL Joel Jimenez, RB/DB Samuel Corona, RB/LB Gary Shipman, QB/DB Jessiah Escobar, WR/DB Noah Reyes.

2025 notes: The Cardinals looks to get back to the playoffs after missing them for the first time in eight years in 2024. Coach Lock is responsible for nine of the Cardinals' 13 playoff appearances since the program began in 1952. The Cardinals certainly have the experience to return to the postseason. QB Escobar (858 yards passing), RB Pritchard (707 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and WR Iglesias (435 yards, 2 TDs receiving) are the team's top returners on offense. LB Banda (84 tackles) and DL Casas (5 sacks) are the leading defensive players coming back. Southside might be ready for a strong two-year run after it started seven sophomores on offense and six sophomores on defense in 2024.

SOUTHWEST DRAGONS

Coach: Alex Franco. Lettermen R/L: 15/39. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 12-1 region semifinalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: LB JaMarcus Conyers (6-1, 170, 4.6), LB/RB Austin Diggs (6-0, 180, 4.7), OL Caden Taylor (6-3, 275), DL Xavier Gonzalez (5-11, 220), OL Ty Friesenhahn (6-1, 270), DL Gabriel Castoreno (5-8, 225). Top junior: DB Jelden Alfaro (5-10, 165). Top sophomore: WR/LB Carlos Griffin (6-1, 170).

2025 notes: The Dragons are rebuilding following a historic playoff run in which they matched the school record for season wins (they also went 12-1 in 1985). Coach Franco believes the

District 14-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Alex Flores, South San Antonio

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB JaMarcus Conyers, San Antonio Southwest

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. San Antonio Southwest (2,187)
2. San Antonio John Jay (2,132)
3. South San Antonio (2,194)
4. San Antonio Southwest Legacy (2,142)
5. Laredo Nixon (2,112)
6. San Antonio Southside (1,755)
7. Laredo Martin (2,003.5)
8. Eagle Pass Winn (1,938)
9. Laredo Cigarroa (1,459)

Dragons will be competitive thanks to the talent emerging from their sub-varsity, including a JV squad that went 8-2. Southwest's strength lies in its offensive line, including Friesenhahn and Taylor, who were all-district picks a year ago. LB/RB Diggs (300 yards rushing; 1 sack) is expected to get more carries and is a tremendous pass rusher. DL Castoreno (68 tackles, 2 sacks) anchors the defensive line at nose tackle. DL Gonzalez (59 tackles, 2 sacks) is the team's defensive leader. LB Conyers emerged as a playmaker on defense during the playoffs.

SOUTHWEST LEGACY TITANS

Coach: Robert Bruce. Lettermen R/L: 19/24. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB James Ross (5-7, 180, 4.6), DL Eli Sanchez (6-1, 190, 4.7), DL Roland Segovia (5-7, 240, 5.2), OL Robert Dillard (5-6, 245, 5.3), WR Eltro Bolden (5-9, 160, 4.7), DB Joehl Montez (5-9, 180, 4.5). Top junior: QB Aiden Garcia (5-8, 155, 4.9).

Other prospect: QB/WR Alejandro Rodriguez.

2025 notes: Coach Bruce believes the Titans have enough talent and experience to make another postseason bid after missing the playoffs in 2023. The team's depth could be an issue as they are expected to suit up 51 players on varsity. Remaining healthy is key. RB Ross (1,311 yards, 14 TDs) is a proven weapon after carrying the ball 204 times last year. QB Garcia (464 yards, 2 TDs) gets a chance to start full time after rotating last year. QB/WR Rodriguez (230 yards rushing; 173 yards passing) is a versatile offensive weapon. DL Segovia (80 tackles) is a fourth-year letterwinner. DL Sanchez (70 tackles) and DB Montez (95 tackles, 8 sacks) also provide valuable experience.

WINN MAVERICKS

Coach: Rene Ramirez. Lettermen R/L: 28/16. Starters returning O/D: 9/6. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DL Humberto Munoz Jr. (6-2, 225, 4.9), WR Ezequiel Banda (5-7, 155, 4.6), OL Miguel Mancha (6-1, 265, 5.5). Top juniors: QB Juan Cruz Jr. (5-10, 145, 4.9), OL Aiden Martinez (5-11, 215, 5.1).

Other prospects: RB Hazael Avila, RB Jayden Castillo, LB Avin Chavez, RB Bryan Leos, WR Jaime Rojas, DB Bobby Cabrera, OL Jesus Navarette Jr., OL Luis Negrete.

2025 notes: The Mavericks certainly have the experience to make their first playoff run since 2021. It's been a rough road since that season, going 2-28, which includes a winless 2022. Coach Ramirez is optimistic that experience will make a difference this season. He cites his team's toughness as a strength, and credits that to the program's culture. His biggest concern is team speed. The Mavericks have qualified for the postseason four times since the varsity program started in 2006.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 5A
HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 15-5A DI Preview

DONNA REDSKINS

Coach: Weldon Jones. Lettermen R/L: 25/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Joel Vasquez, (5-9, 175, 5.0), LB/RB Lorenzo Rocha (5-7, 180, 4.9), RB Joel Duran (5-5, 135), RB/WR Yahir Mata (5-10, 155, 4.7), LB Aaron Bazan (5-9, 175, 5.0), DL Gael Hernandez (6-2, 210, 5.0).

Other prospects: DL Arturo Torres, WR/DB Curly Casares, OL Matthew Guerrero, DB Mario Medrano, DB Julius Garza, WR Luis Reglado.

2025 notes: Donna is under new direction with former Economedes and PSJA North coordinator Jones, who brings multiple looks on both sides of the ball. The Redskins will be an experienced group defensively with eight returners led by their linebacking corps of LB/RB Vasquez (113 tackles) and LB/RB Rocha (101 tackles, 4 sacks). DB Garza (54 tackles) and DB Medrano (37 tackles) will also be leaned upon after solid sophomore seasons. Offensively, Donna brings back five starters but will be the youngest up front. Jones has helped build solid line play at his previous stops as they look to get RB Duran (233 yards rushing) going on the ground with RB/WR Mata, WR/DB Casares and WR Reglado getting in on the offensive fun.

DONNA NORTH CHIEFS

Coach: Juan Cuevas. Lettermen R/L: 13/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: RB/WR Prince Johnson (5-11, 4.6), LB Sergio Caldera (5-11, 4.9), DL Rey Ortega (6-1, 5.1), DL Matthew Rodriguez (5-11, 5.0), LB Adrian Portillo (5-10, 4.8). Top sophomore: QB Ozzy Carrisales (5-10, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Chiefs will lean on their defense this year and have a solid and experienced front seven to help. LB Caldera and LB Portillo will shoot gaps and play sideline-to-sideline while DL Ortega and DL Rodriguez eat up blocks and blow up the running game. Sophomore QB Carrisales will take charge of a Chiefs' offense that will feature playmaker RB/WR Johnson (930 yards, 2 TDs rushing). The senior was a bright spot for an offense that struggled last season and is determined to put more points on the board in 2025.

FLOUR BLUFF HORNETS

Coach: Clynt Elwood. Lettermen R/L: 26/25. Starters returning O/D: 2/7. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Tristan Wilson (6-0, 210, 4.7), DL Anthony Mimms (5-11, 230, 4.9), DL Landon Green (6-1, 190, 4.7), LB Chris Russell (5-9, 190, 4.8), OL Matthew Howard (5-11, 240, 5.2), OL Connor Davis (5-9, 240, 5.2). Top juniors: RB Sam Smith (5-8, 175, 4.5), WR Alen Jorgensen (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL Travis Norris (6-3, 300, 5.0).

Other prospects: DL Micah Mitchell, DL/TE Owen Beseda, DB Julian Johnson.

2025 notes: The Hornets have won three straight district titles after sharing last year's and a fourth will be a challenge in a competitive 15-5A DI. Two starters return from their high-scoring offense and they're both in the trenches in OL Howard and OL Davis. Elwood will be looking for multiple skill players and a new QB to step up and take over in the spread offense. Flour Bluff's strength will be on the defensive side of the ball, particularly with its front in the 4-2-5. DL Mimms (56 tackles, 13 TFL, 4 sacks) and DL Green (91 tackles, 15 TFL, 7 sacks) cause havoc on the front line and LB Wilson (118 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks) and LB Russell (54 tackles) are solid playing sideline-to-sideline.

HARLINGEN SOUTH HAWKS

Coach: Israel Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 25/35. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Austin Shroyer (5-10, 165, 4.8), LB Marcus Garza (6-0, 210, 4.9), OL Ryan Luna (5-9, 250, 5.1), WR/DB Yariel Cabrera (5-9, 150, 4.6), DL Cash Harrell (6-0, 205, 5.0), LB Olek Lerma (5-8, 150, 4.9). Top juniors: DL Anthony Lerma (5-9, 230, 5.3), LB Jackson Fernandez (5-11, 205, 5.2). Top sophomore: DL Joe Carter Nunez (6-0, 185, 4.9).

Other prospects: DB Julian De Leon, TE Matthew Alvear, WR/K Jaziel Ovalle, DB Jacob Garza, WR

Gavin Ramirez, TE/QB Frank Puente, RB/DB Gian Harvey, OL Christian Chino.

2025 notes: South will roll out a stacked front seven defensively, led by LB Garza (77 tackles, 13 TFL) and LB Lerma (38 tackles, 4 INTs) on the second level, while DL Lerma (33 tackles) and DL Harrell (19 tackles) man the trenches. WR/DB Cabrera (17-250 yards, 1 TD receiving; 18 tackles) and RB/DB Harvey will see time on both sides and have been impact players when doing so. QB Shroyer (974 yards, 7 TDs passing; 210 yards, 2 TDs rushing) is set to run the show offensively after splitting duties in 2024 with WR Ramirez taking on a bigger role. The Hawks have made four straight postseason appearances and will have to grind it out in a tough district to keep their streak intact.

PSJA MEMORIAL WOLVERINES

Coach: Omar Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 10/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Miguel Resendiz (5-8, 185, 4.7), QB Nolan Ramirez (5-8, 165, 4.9), DL Brandon Perez (5-9, 190, 5.1), OL Emilio Gonzalez (6-1, 250, 5.2), DB Homer Camacho (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Orlando Gonzalez (6-0, 260, 5.5). Top juniors: DL Anthony Olarte (5-9, 225, 5.3), DL Johnathan Basutro (5-11, 190, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB Vicente Lopez (5-8, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: ATH Christian Rivera, DB Isaiah Lopez, DL Eusebio De Leon, LB Joaquin Palacios, WR Matthew Garza, DB Jose Garcia, RB Joshua Bautista, WR Jesus Solis.

2025 notes: The Wolverines hung tough in one of South Texas' toughest districts and will look to be competitive again in 2025 under first-year HC Gonzalez. QB Ramirez (66 tackles) makes the jump from defensive back to leading the spread offense this season and will have three returning hogs on the OL to help ease the move. RB/LB Resendiz is a tough tackle and should see time leading the Wolverines defensively. DL Perez and DB Camacho (42 tackles) will also be depended on to bring toughness on the front and back end of the PSJA Memorial defense.

PSJA NORTH RAIDERS

Coach: Marcus Kaufmann. Lettermen R/L: 39/6. Starters returning O/D: 10/7. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Ethan Guerra (5-8, 185, 4.5), DB Ethan Montemayor (5-9, 175, 4.4), OL Derek Garcia (5-11, 4.9), QB Daren Garcia (5-11, 4.6), DL Reynaldo Martinez (6-2, 5.1), WR/DB Bryan Guerrero (6-0, 175, 4.4). Top juniors: DB Jason Almanza (6-1, 4.4). Top sophomore: DL Jacoby Herrera (6-0, 255, 5.0).

Other prospects: WR/DB Isaiah Garza, RB/DB Mark Quintanilla, ATH Antwon Estrada, FB/LB Andrew Alvarado, ATH Drayden Espinoza, RB Blake Sims.

2025 notes: PSJA North has become a South Texas powerhouse and is in pursuit of a fourth-straight district title after splitting last year's three ways. The Raiders return 10 starters offensively who are ready to light up scoreboards. All-state RB Guerra (1,870 yards, 17 TDs rushing) does it all and runs with tremendous contact balance, speed, strength and vision. QB Garcia (861 yards, 12 TDs passing; 542 yards, 9 TDs rushing) was dynamic in his own right as a dual-threat weapon. The "Blackshirts Defense" has forces inside with DL Martinez (96 tackles, 18 TFL) and DL Herrera (42 tackles, 8 TFL), with experienced secondary defenders in four-year starter DB Montemayor (101 tackles, 17 TFL), WR/DB Guerrero (63 tackles, 2 INTs) and DB Almanza (56 tackles, 2 INTs).

RIVERA RAIDERS

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 21/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Ivan Rodriguez (5-10, 165, 4.7), WR Alex Garza (5-5, 145, 4.7), RB Oliver De La Garza (6-0, 220, 4.8), DL Juan Carlos Saucedo (6-1, 210, 4.8), LB Nathan Eguia (5-9, 185, 4.8), DB Javi Lopez (5-10, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: RB/LB Brandon Guerra (5-9, 185, 4.7), WR/DB Anthony Saucedo (6-1, 175, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB/LB Jorge Garcia (5-8, 150, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Gael Payan, WR Hunter Espinosa, OL Oziel Garza, DL Carlos Trevino, LB Issac Laredo, DL Henry Jones, DL Raymond Borrego, QB/RB Arturo Cuellar.

2025 notes: It's been 10 years since Rivera's last

District 15-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Ethan Guerra, PSJA North

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Tristan Wilson, CC Flour Bluff

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. PSJA North (2,244)
2. Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial (2,014)
3. Corpus Christi Flour Bluff (1,963)
4. Harlingen South (2,115)
5. Weslaco East (2,157)
6. PSJA Memorial (1,967)
7. Donna (2,080.5)
8. Brownsville Rivera (2,268)
9. Donna North (1,997.5)

postseason appearance and the Raiders will have their work cut out for them. QB Rodriguez leads the spread offense that features WR Garza and WR/DB Saucedo as the team's top perimeter threats. RB De La Garza has the size and speed to be a workhorse back running behind OL Payan and OL Garza. The defense brings back seven starters and is spearheaded by LB Eguia (5 sacks). DL Saucedo (5 sacks) is speedy and tough to block in Rivera's multiple fronts, while DB Lopez provides experience in the secondary at strong safety. RB/LB Guerra and RB/LB Garcia are also expected to contribute as two-way players

VETERANS MEMORIAL EAGLES

Coach: Ben Bitner. Lettermen R/L: 25/27. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Charles Perry Jr. (6-0, 170), ATH Ryan Carmona (5-9, 170), RB/LB Andrew Charlebois (5-10, 200), ATH Ryan Scott (5-9, 185), OL/DL Dylan Durbin (6-6, 250), LB/FB Kyle Wilson (5-11, 180). Top juniors: OL/DL Frank Rodriguez Jr. (6-0, 240), OL/DL Carlo Torres (6-3, 250). Top sophomore: ATH George Sagolili (5-9, 165).

Other prospects: WR/DB Andres Montes, RB/DB Zhi'Yeair Lofton, TE/DL Luke Lowery, TE/DL Luis Torres, LB John Garza, OL/DL Braxton Taylor, ATH Anthony Winans, WR/DB Brandon Reyes.

2025 notes: The Eagles have been among the Coastal Bend's best since debuting in 2016 and earned a share of last year's district crown, the program's fifth in nine seasons. Versatile ATH Perry (11-226 yards, 1 TD receiving) missed the majority of 2024 due to injury but is looking to make a statement in his return. RB/LB Charlebois (1,984 yards, 24 TDs rushing) led the district in rushing last season and is primed for another big year, as is ATH and special teams ace Carmona (23 tackles). Veterans Memorial will be the strongest on its offensive and defensive lines with OL/DL Durbin as a force at tackle and the disruptive duo of OL/DL Torres (61 tackles) and OL/DL Rodriguez (44 tackles).

WESLACO EAST WILDCATS

Coach: Mike Burget. Lettermen R/L: 24/15. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Malachi Rodriguez (6-0, 195, 4.6), DB Jay Herrera (5-8, 150, 4.5), RB Elias Rodriguez (5-10, 190, 4.6), OL Joe Barrera (6-1, 280, 5.5), LB Alan Alejos (5-8, 180, 4.7), QB Aiden Gonzalez (5-6, 145, 4.5). Top juniors: DL Jaden Garza (6-2, 230, 5.0). Top sophomore: RB Devon Burnias (5-8, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Daniel Padilla, LB Noah Rosales, TE Rudy Villegas, OL Jacob Zuniga, DB Ram Carrera.

2025 notes: QB Rodriguez (85 yards 1 TD passing; 1,026 yards, 11 TDs rushing) had a breakout freshman campaign and showed he can handle a heavy workload. QB Gonzalez (617 yards, 1 TD passing; 234 yards, 4 TDs rushing) also split time and proved to be the more effective passer, while RB Rodriguez (385 yards, 4 TDs rushing) will see more touches coming his way in 2025. The Wildcats play sound defensively in their 4-2-5 scheme with LB Alejos (70 tackles) and LB Padilla (68 tackles) roaming sideline-to-sideline with lockdown DB Herrera (55 tackles) and DB Carrera (18 tackles) holding down the secondary.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 16-5A DI Preview

JUAREZ-LINCOLN HUSKIES

Coach: Danny Cortez. Lettermen R/L: 10/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Sebastian Lopez (6-2, 150, 4.7), QB Santiago Lopez (5-9, 155, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Juarez-Lincoln Huskies ended a 34-game losing streak last season by winning their first contest since 2019. The Huskies were also competitive in a couple of close games against playoff teams a season ago. Juarez-Lincoln's offense will revolve around its two speedy playmakers at the quarterback and receiver position. Junior QB Lopez saw time behind center last season running the spread offense, while WR Lopez is a tall and athletic target on the outside. The Huskies will feed him touches in the passing game in hopes of breaking a big one. They'll also have five returning starters to lead things defensively. If Juarez-Lincoln can get off to a good start in non-district action, they might be able to play spoiler once 16-5A DI play rolls around.

McALLEN BULLDOGS

Coach: Patrick Shelby. Lettermen R/L: na/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 4-6/4-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Oliver Schwarz (6-3, 185, 4.6), DE Fletcher Frisby (6-5, 225, 4.9), DE Cash Frisby (6-5, 205, 4.9), QB McCoy Wolthoff (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR Finn Henderson (5-9, 180, 4.5), OL Bryan Bazan (6-4, 270, 5.1). Top juniors: LB Hayden Helgeson (6-2, 190, 4.7), RB Andres Garza (5-9, 190, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Marcos Palacios (5-11, 195, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB Hunter Morley, WR Cinco Jones, OL Adam Gonzalez, LB Bryan Perez, DL Mason Briones, DB Pablo De La Rosa.

2025 notes: McHi narrowly missed out on last year's postseason due to a tiebreaker, and the Bulldogs are out for redemption as they fight for a playoff spot in 2025. QB Wolthoff (188 yards, 4 TDs passing) steps into a starting role to run a spread offense that will feature RBs Morley and Garza handling touches out of the backfield with WR Jones (30-414 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and WR Henderson as the top targets in the passing game. OL Bazan is back to take charge on the offensive line. McHi has the defensive pieces to be the strongest unit in the district led by hard-hitting LB Schwarz (102 tackles) and relentless play of DE Fletcher Frisby (27 tackles) and DE Cash Frisby (48 tackles).

MEMORIAL MUSTANGS

Coach: Moses Patterson. Lettermen R/L: 17/12. Starters returning O/D: 9/3. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kane Coy (5-9, 160, 4.3), LB Dalton Keller (6-2, 185, 4.6), DB Nehemiah Adebawale (5-10, 170, 4.6), RB Braxton Speights (5-11, 205, 4.7), WR Michael Alaniz (5-10, 150, 4.4), RB Jayden Soliz (5-10, 160, 4.4). Top juniors: DB Jason Martinez (5-11, 170, 4.6), DL Kaden Kirkman (5-10, 210, 5.1).

Other prospects: OL Shawn Reyes, OL Damian Lopez-Castillo, DL Javier Izaguirre, OL Gustavo Escandon, OL Zeke Ozuna, TE Gavin McIntyre, WR Hugo Rodriguez, DB Noah Ocanas.

2025 notes: The Mustangs have the most firepower back in 16-5A DI with nine returning offensive starters. QB Coy (788 yards, 13 TDs passing; 250 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is a three-year player who continues to improve, and he'll have plenty of weapons to get the ball to. RB Soliz (824 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and RB Speights (554 yards, 8 TDs rushing) both had strong showings last season and are prepared to handle more touches. WR Alaniz (20-696 yards, 12 TDs receiving) is a headache to defend with his big-play ability. Defensive MVP LB Keller (57 tackles) will be called upon to lead a young Mustangs defense. Memorial has the potential to win its first district title in four years and can make some postseason noise after.

MISSION EAGLES

Coach: Jody Cantu. Lettermen R/L: 25/15. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Shelby Sital (5-9, 156, 4.5), LB Jose Sanchez (5-11, 170, 4.6), OL Jurgen Morales (6-2, 270, 5.4), DB Javier Ramirez (5-8, 140, 4.5), WR Jared Castro (5-10, 170, 4.7), LB Jonathan Kader (5-10, 190, 5.1). Top juniors: WR Santiago Gonzales (5-10, 170, 4.5), DB Sebastian Rodriguez (6-0, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: DB Ezra Cuadros (5-10, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Alejandro Cano, QB Lincoln Butler, DB Andrew Villareal, OL/DL Jose Lopez, DL Alessandro Garfiaz, OL/DL Yezzuell Gomez.

2025 notes: Defensive-minded first-year HC Cantu leads a group featuring 15 returning starters focused on getting into the playoffs. Mission's most dangerous weapons in the spread offense are WR Sital (47-624 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and WR Castro (27-404 yards, 3 TDs receiving), who will look to help the strong-armed first-year starter QB Cano. LB Sanchez (83 tackles, 12 TFL) and LB Kader (79 tackles) provide a pair of playmaking defenders at the second level of Mission's 4-3 scheme with DL Garfiaz anchoring things up front. DB Ramirez (34 tackles) and DB Rodriguez (15 tackles, 2 INTs) are also set for big seasons and sticky in man-to-man coverage. Don't be surprised to see the Eagles in district title contention if they can fill the few holes they have.

PALMVIEW LOBOS

Coach: Margarito Requenez. Lettermen R/L: 19/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Joseph Martinez (6-0, 185, 4.7), WR Joe Esparza (5-7, 155, 4.6), LB Leonidas Chapa (5-9, 205, 4.8), DL Dillan Sepulveda (5-11, 215, 5.1), RB Adrian Rivas (5-10, 165, 4.5), DB Osbel Flores (5-10, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: FB Aiden Ramirez (5-10, 175, 4.9). Other prospects: WR Reynaldo Ramirez, QB Josue Esparza, DB Azeal Moreno, DB Maximilian Solis, OL Baldemar Gonzalez, LB Jesus Gonzalez, TE Kevin Solis, DB Gael Acosta.

2025 notes: Palmview earned its way into the postseason thanks to a tiebreaker and now has 14 returning starters chasing back-to-back playoff appearances. QB/DB Martinez (436 yards, 3 TDs passing; 486 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 3 INTs) is dynamic running the Slot-T on offense and cleaning up in the secondary on defense. DB Flores (54 tackles, 3 INTs) has also been able to create turnovers defensively, while LB Chapa (71 tackles) and DL Sepulveda (46 tackles) are solid defenders in the box. Offensive weapons include WR Esparza (22-385 yards, 8 TDs receiving) on the perimeter and a tandem of backs in RB Rivas and FB Ramirez. The Lobos had strong showings against tough competition last season, which could help propel them to another playoff berth in 2025.

RIO GRANDE CITY RATTLERS

Coach: Abel Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 15/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: QB DeAndre Rodriguez (6-0, 165, 4.5), ATH Dante Flores (5-9, 160, 4.6), DL Oscar Martinez (5-11, 215, 5.1), OL RJ Rivera (6-1, 245, 5.2), WR Robert Perez Jr. (5-7, 140, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Abraham Cabello (5-8, 200, 5.0), LB Rene Fuentes (5-9, 205, 5.1). Top sophomore: LB/RB Frank Eguia (5-8, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Alec Garcia, LB Michael Smith, WR Adan Castillo, RB Michael Rosa.

2025 notes: The Rattlers experienced growing pains in Year 1 under Gonzalez as the offense shifted from the Slot-T to the spread, but there is plenty to build on entering Year 2. QB Rodriguez (627 yards, 4 TDs passing; 630 yards, 6 TDs rushing) made things happen and showed signs of being a true playmaker behind center and WR Perez (25-315 yards receiving) was productive as a pass-catcher on the perimeter. ATH Flores (3 INTs) is a shutdown defensive back who will get involved offensively to

District 16-5A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Shelby Sital, Mission

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Dalton Keller, McAllen Memorial

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. McAllen Memorial (2,121)
2. Edinburg Vela (2,266)
3. McAllen (2,205)
4. Mission (2,181.5)
5. McAllen Rowe (1,973)
6. La Joya Palmview (2,173)
7. Rio Grande City (1,922)
8. La Joya Juarez-Lincoln (1,994.5)

provide another speedy option. OL Rivera returns to lead an offensive line blocking for RB Rosa. The Rattlers will be on the younger side defensively but the linebacking corps of LB Cabello, LB Fuentes and RB/LB Eguia looks promising.

ROWE WARRIORS

Coach: Jamaar Taylor. Lettermen R/L: 16/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 3-7/3-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Dante Rodriguez (5-10, 185, 4.6), ATH Nomar Aguirre (5-10, 180, 4.5), ATH Sebastian Islas (5-8, 165), DL Julian Nava (6-2, 240, 4.8), OL Derek Pruneda (6-4, 285, 4.9), WR Landin Barrera (5-9, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Mark Akoshi (5-11, 275, 5.1), DL Owen Rangel (6-2, 270, 5.0). Top sophomore: RB Mario Menchaca (5-9, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: TE Mikael Hinojosa, DB Valencia Ricardo, LB Rotsbel Ramos.

2025 notes: The former Texas A&M and New York Giants receiver Taylor enters Year 1 at the helm and looks to lead the Warriors back into the postseason after a two-year absence. Defense will be a strength for Rowe this season with six returning starters, led by LB Rodriguez (59 tackles, 6 TFL), while ATH Aguirre (51 tackles) and ATH Islas (38 tackles, 2 INTs) could potentially see some touches coming their way. DL Nava (32 tackles) is set to anchor the defensive line. The Rowe offense will feature seven new starters but OL Pruneda has the agility, power and size to clear room up front for whoever wins the quarterback and running back jobs. The new-look Warriors should contend for a playoff spot in 2025.

VELA SABERCATS

Coach: Ernie Alonzo. Lettermen R/L: 30/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/8. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: LB OJ Cano (6-0, 185, 4.7), LB Mario Cavazos Jr. (6-1, 180, 4.6), DL Ethan Delgado (5-11, 195, 4.9), WR Jay'r Guevara (5-8, 155, 4.8), OL Sam Gomez (6-2, 225, 5.1), DL Aidan Cantu (5-11, 215, 5.0). Top juniors: WR George Fauls (6-0, 160, 4.5), LB Robbie Rodriguez (5-8, 170, 4.6). Top sophomore: QB Aaron Ponce (6-0, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB Sergio Briones, DB Devin Caballero, WR Ryan Rodriguez, RB Christopher Caballero, LB Noah Lopez, DL Augie Perez, OL Arnold Flores, OL Max Mora.

2025 notes: Year 1 under HC Alonzo resulted in another 10-0 regular season and district title for the Sabercats, who look to uphold the standard once again. Vela graduated its leading passer, rusher and receiver from 2024, but the Sabercats are deep with multiple playmakers returning out wide. WR Guevara (28-380 yards, 3 TDs receiving), WR Fauls (31-629 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and WR Rodriguez (30-447 yards, 5 TDs receiving) displayed the ability to get open and operate attacking different levels of the defense. Eight starters are back defensively to give the Sabercats one of the top fronts in the area. LB Cano, LB Cavazos and LB Rodriguez form a strong and explosive linebacker corps, while DL Delgado and DL Cantu will anchor the front line.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

High School
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 1-5A DII Preview

ADDRESS GOLDEN EAGLES

Coach: Chris Taylor. Lettermen R/L: 22/16. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Jamari Milton (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR Mi'Keil Taylor (6-0, 180, 4.6), ATH Aavant Clayton (5-10, 185, 4.6), DE Kyran Adams (5-11, 200, 4.7), LB Ivan Cervantes (5-11, 215, 4.8), DB Elijah Cooper (5-10, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: DE Donte Johnson-Caldwell (6-0, 200, 4.8), RB Carmello Jones (5-9, 170, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Jaycob Chavez (6-3, 275).

Other prospects: WR Jordon Owens, OL Josh Cooper, LB Erick Blucher, LB Omar Guzman, DB Vante Chapman, DT Andre Parks, OL Edward Medina, DB Fabian Rosales.

2025 notes: After struggling to just three wins a year ago, Taylor believes Address is poised to take a big step forward as 15 starters are back. Junior QB Milton (2,416 yards, 27 TDs passing) developed quite a bit as a sophomore and returns to lead an explosive attack. WR Taylor hauled in nine touchdown receptions a year ago, while sophomore ATH Clayton tallied 10 total touchdowns as a freshman. The secondary returns every starter from last year, led by talented junior DB Cooper (45 tackles, 1 INT). Speedy DE Adams had 10 sacks a year ago and is an absolute terror off the edge. Taylor lauds his team's experience, but says he is looking for some leaders to step into those roles in 2025.

BURGESS MUSTANGS

Coach: Bernie Luna. Lettermen R/L: 18/26. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Jayden Bowser (5-9, 150, 4.6), ATH Nezahul Cisneros (5-9, 150, 4.7), QB Marcus Sanchez (5-10, 170), CB Daniel Herrera (5-9, 130, 4.7), OL Anthony Villegas (5-10, 205), OL Jose Quezada (5-9, 200). Top juniors: DE Elijah Serrano (5-10, 220, 4.9), WR Tyree Lewis (5-8, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL/DT Leonel Menchaca (6-2, 290).

Other prospects: OL/DT Julian DeAnda, OL Jordan Hahn, LB Nathan Montes, LB Isaac Morales, CB Derrryk Ponce, DT David Sanchez, OL Ryan Clancy, DT Fernando Maldonado.

2025 notes: Luna believes the Mustangs are poised to challenge for the playoffs as they return seven starters on both sides of the ball and get added help from a JV team that posted a solid 7-3 mark. WR Bowser (550 yards, 5 TDs receiving) is also a force in the return game, as he took two kicks back for scores. ATH Cisneros played a little bit of QB, RB and WR last year and tallied six scores. He may settle in full-time at RB with the emergence of QB Sanchez (1,358 yards, 11 TDs passing). DE Serrano has a ton of potential and could lead the defense along with LB Montes (49 tackles), who is the top returning tackler.

CANUTILLO EAGLES

Coach: Scott Brooks. Lettermen R/L: 24/28. Starters returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jared Gamiz (5-10, 190, 4.7), OL Gustavo Boyd (6-1, 250), OL Eddie Najera (6-1, 245), S Josiah Cardona (5-9, 160, 4.8). Top junior: QB Christian Huerta (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Nikolhas Martinez (5-11, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB David Rivas, S/K Ian Escajeda, OL Omar Flores, LB Carson Fiske, OL Javier Meza.

2025 notes: The Eagles continued their run of consistency posting nine wins, but a lot of talent from that team has departed after graduation. RB/LB Gamiz (143 yards, 4 TDs rushing, 68 tackles) leads the defense and will be utilized again as a short yardage back. The offensive line will be a strength with Boyd and Najera returning to lead that unit in the trenches. Junior QB Huerta is expected to take over leading the Eagles' run-oriented offensive attack. S Cardona (84 tackles) had a strong sophomore season earning district newcomer of the year honors a year ago. "We have to replace most of our offensive production. We had a lot of guys who played but a lot will need to step up," said Brooks.

CHAPIN HUSKIES

Coach: Marco Chavez. Lettermen R/L: 21/23. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district

finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Daveon Singleton (5-9, 170, 4.5), DL Dallas Tucker (6-3, 275), OL/DL Mark Rudolph (6-4, 270), OL Damian Perez (5-11, 250), DB Devon Harris (5-10, 170, 4.5), QB Josh Martel (5-10, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Corwon Martin (5-10, 170, 4.5), S Terrance Hall (6-2, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB Fabian Ortiz (6-0, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Juel Delgado, LB Fabian Garcia, ATH Carlos Garcia, WR Max Sanchez, OL Jorge Martinez, OL Aidan Thompson, DL Enoch Barrios, DE Antonio Enriquez.

2025 notes: The Huskies expect to contend for a district title in 2025 as Chavez welcomes back 13 starters and has help coming from a 7-3 JV squad. ATH Singleton (733 yards, 22 TDs rushing; 43-757, 21 TDs receiving) is among the most dynamic playmakers in the Sun City and has picked up plenty of FBS recruiting interest. OL Perez didn't allow a sack in 2024 and is the leader up front, but breaking in a new QB and several new skill players will be a concern. DL Tucker (39 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) and OL/DL Rudolph (24 tackles, 9 TFL, 4 sacks) are the leaders up front, while junior S Hall (21 tackles, 3 TFL, 4 INTs) is back after an impressive sophomore debut.

DEL VALLE CONQUISTADORES

Coach: Rudy Contreras. Lettermen R/L: 25/21. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 10-1 area finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Jake Fette (6-1, 190, 4.5), LB Mateo Santibanez (5-9, 190, 4.8), WR/SS Josiah Nunez (6-2, 195, 4.6), WR/S Dylan Gonzalez (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL Evan Serna (6-2, 220), DE Adrian Vizcarra (6-0, 190, 4.8). Top junior: RB Joel Vizcarra (5-8, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: The only team in the El Paso area to win a playoff game in 2024 will lean on a sensational signal-caller to lead a lot of new faces back to playoff glory. Fette accounted for 43 touchdowns passing and rushing a year ago against just one interception and is as good as advertised. WR/SS Nunez, who accounted for 11 touchdowns on offense and 67 tackles and WR/S Gonzalez (35-483 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 20 tackles) return as two-way playmakers. LB Santibanez (129 tackles) is a force on the defensive side of the ball with his high football IQ. DE Vizcarra (53 tackles, 7 sacks) will be the leader of a young Del Valle defensive line.

EL PASO TIGERS

Coach: Ray Aguilar Jr. Lettermen R/L: 18/33. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Luis Merino (5-5, 210), WR Santiago Gonzalez (5-8, 150), LB Isaac Sanchez (6-2, 185). Top junior: ATH Ledger Merritt (6-1, 185).

2025 notes: The Tigers could be looking at a challenging year in 2025 as Aguilar's squad will have to lean on a lot of new faces, and physically this team isn't as big or fast as some previous squads. RB Merino (518 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is low to the ground and a tank of a back who is tough once he gets a head of steam going. WR Gonzalez (35-412, 4 TDs receiving) is back on the outside. Junior ATH Merritt has good speed and will be relied upon to be a contributor in all three phases. LB Sanchez (48 tackles, 2 TFL) is the top returner for the defense. Aguilar says inexperience at QB and overall depth will be major concerns going into 2025.

HANKS KNIGHTS

Coach: Scott Veliz. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-4/4-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Alex Robles (5-8, 150, 4.5), QB Jordan Morales (6-0, 190, 4.8), WR Deonte Wensel (6-0, 180, 4.6), RB Austin Deucher (5-6, 185, 4.6), DE Derek Chacon (6-1, 210), LB Johnny Swartz (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL Jesus Garcia (6-0, 290), LB Joseph Ybarra (5-9, 180, 4.8), LB Andrew Robles (6-0, 180).

Other prospects: ATH Zack Kania, OL/DL Erin Medina, DB Ky-Ri Bonner, WR/DB Junior Gardea, LB Kristian Barrios, WR/DB Brandon Sanchez-Hinojo, RB/LB Austin Freres, OL/DL Joaquin Lopez.

2025 notes: Hanks will be plenty explosive on offense with the return of WRs Robles (56-1,249, 13 TDs receiving) and Wensel (47-779, 8 TDs receiving), RB Deucher (915 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and the

District 1-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jake Fette, El Paso Del Valle

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jared Gamiz, Canutillo

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. El Paso Del Valle (1,865)
2. Canutillo (1,554)
3. El Paso Chapin (1,822)
4. El Paso Address (1,430)

5. El Paso Hanks (1,396)
6. El Paso Burges (1,423)
7. El Paso (1,689.5)
8. Clint Horizon (1,577)
9. El Paso Jefferson (1,562)

ringleader of the offense, QB Morales (2,588 yards, 26 TDs passing). The defense will be led by DE Chacon (56 tackles, 9 TFL) and LB Swartz (58 tackles, 2 TFL, 6 sacks). Junior LB Ybarra (45 tackles) also returns after a strong sophomore campaign. "If we can stay healthy and replace some key pieces up front on both sides, we have a chance to challenge for one of the top spots in the district," said Veliz, who also lists the secondary as a question mark.

HORIZON SCORPIONS

Coach: Omar Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 18/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Julian Williams (6-1, 160, 4.8), RB Isaiah Aguilera (5-9, 185, 4.9), TE/DE Julian Gamboa (6-3, 225), WR/DB Abraham Barraza (5-9, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Nathan Davila (6-0, 235), DE Christopher Gutierrez (5-11, 190, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Nicholas Chaparro (6-1, 180, 4.7), LB Roberto Valdez (5-10, 175, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Jose Castillo (5-10, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: DE Jeremy Madrigal, OL Darian Hernandez, OL Daniel Ortiz, RB/DB Diego Flores, OL/DL Alexander Cordero, OL Jesus De La Cruz, DB Alejandro Zavala.

2025 notes: Coach Garcia says 13 starters returning along with a second year in the system should result in improvement for the Scorpions in 2025. Junior QB Williams (1,849 yards, 19 TDs passing; 3 TDs rushing) is the leader of the offense and should thrive as he becomes more comfortable. Junior RB Aguilera (282 yards, 2 TDs rushing) got hurt early in the year, returned late, but wasn't 100%. A full return to health should bring balance to the offense. OL/DL Davila is a three-year starter on the offensive line and will be the anchor in the middle. TE/DE Gamboa (30 tackles, 2 sacks) and DE Gutierrez (28 tackles, 9 TFL) will be the leaders of an improved defense.

JEFFERSON SILVER FOXES

Coach: Tony Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 13/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Davion Arnette (5-9, 160, 4.9), TE/LB Alberto Nevarez (5-10, 175, 4.9), WR/S Ithen Complan (5-7, 145, 4.9), WR/CB Zoel Nonnel (5-8, 150, 4.9), OL/DL Michael Garcia (5-9, 250), ATH Jesus Gomez (5-10, 190), TE/DL Angelo Acosta (5-10, 205, 4.9), WR Keifer Guerrero (5-10, 145, 4.9), LB Nathan Garcia (5-9, 165), RB/LB Rahaab Torres, RB/LB Jesse Ortega, OL/DL Dilan Bautista, RB/LB Isaac Flores, OL/DL Jose Estrada, OL Elijah Sheridan, WR Elvin Hernandez, OL/DL Fernando Urrutia.

2025 notes: Martinez believes a second year in a pro-style offensive system will result in improvement, which should hopefully translate into more wins as the Silver Foxes have won just two games in the past two years. QB/LB Arnette (229 yards, 2 TDs passing; 302 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 101 tackles) gets it done on both sides of the ball; he and ATH Gomez (432 yards, 1 TD passing; 227 yards, 1 TD rushing) could both see time at QB. The Jefferson defense will be led by a strong group at linebacker as, aside from Arnette, the Foxes return LB Nevarez (92 tackles), who has a great motor and flies around the field.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 2-5A DII Preview

ABILENE COOPER COUGARS

Coach: Aaron Roan. Lettermen R/L: 24/27. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DL Dycin Davis (6-3, 235, 4.7), OL Kayden Bryan (6-2, 315, 5.4), QB/WR Jaden Carrillo (5-9, 170, 4.6), RB Peyton Ewing (5-10, 180, 4.5), LB Canon Adams (5-11, 180, 4.8), OL Jayden Flores (6-0, 275, 5.3), ATH Major De Los Santos (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Beau Byrne (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Zaylon Johnson (6-0, 180, 4.6), DB Jacob Bynum, WR/LB Tayden Bender, DL Israel Massouema, LB Jamaron Dunson, OL Marcus Andrade, DB Cahmauri Titus.

2025 notes: The Cougars will lean on their returning offensive experience as they shoot for a 19th straight playoff appearance in a challenging district. Cooper's biggest strength is its offensive line as Bryan and Flores are three-year starters. Carrillo (39-379 yards, 3 TDs receiving) is a versatile skill player who can play quarterback, while there are high expectations for RB Ewing (761 yards, 5 TDs rushing). Look for receivers Johnson (25-314 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and Bender to build off solid freshman seasons for whoever is taking the snaps. The Cougars don't have much experience at the defensive skill positions, but DE Davis (88 tackles, 13 sacks) is a next-level playmaker with a high football IQ. LB Adams (70 tackles) is another dependable Cougar.

LEGACY LEOPARDS

Coach: Greg Davis. Lettermen R/L: 28/10. Starters returning O/D: 6-5. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Knox Hodges (5-11, 170), DB Da'Kendrick Jones (6-2, 180), OL Daiquan Moses (6-4, 240), LB Charlie Thomas (5-10, 220), LB Adrian Martinez (5-10, 170), OL Ariel Claudio (5-8, 245), WR Jourian Wiggins (5-11, 165), WR Josiah Carter (5-10, 160), Jaravion Neal (5-11, 180), RB Kevin Riddle, WR Ben Barnard, WR Ke'shaud Johnson, OL Cooper Skelton, DB Terry McGowan.

2025 notes: The Leopards should be more competitive in the program's second season. Davis, who was Mansfield Lake Ridge's defensive coordinator, takes over a squad that is still going to be young. QB Hodges (899 yards, 3 TDs passing) will benefit from having started as a freshman, while another sophomore in Neal will join him in the backfield. Jones, a first-team all-district selection, leads a defense that must improve after allowing 46.6 points per game. Thomas and Martinez provide experience at linebacker, while juniors Moses and Claudio will lead the offensive line.

LUBBOCK-COOPER PIRATES

Coach: Chip Darden. Lettermen R/L: 23/42. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Sione Vaea (6-0, 250, 4.9), QB Ryan Rodriguez (6-0, 190, 4.8), OL John Ryder Hatton (6-4, 280, 5.2), DL Patric Garcia (6-1, 235, 4.9), WR Cade Gant (5-11, 155, 4.6), RJ Florence (6-2, 240, 4.9), DB Blake Moore (6-1, 170, 4.6), WR Noah Clark (5-10, 155, 4.6), OL Jaxon Turnbow, OL Blayze Douglas, OL Peyton Duncan.

2025 notes: The Pirates are always a district and regional contender under Darden, and that shouldn't change this season. The defensive line should be stellar again as seniors Vaea (90 tackles, 9 sacks) and Garcia (65 tackles) offer versatility because they can line up in multiple places. Rodriguez (2,454 yards, 25 TDs passing) enters his third season as Cooper's starting quarterback and he'll have the dynamic receiver Gant (39-561 yards, 2 TDs receiving) at his disposal. The Pirates also have a veteran offensive line in tackles Hatton (a three-year starter) and Douglas. The Pirates will have a small varsity team so depth could be an issue, but if they can stay healthy, they'll be in the mix for a district title once again.

MEMORIAL MAVERICKS

Coach: Marc Bindel. Lettermen R/L: 25/40. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Joe Castles (6-7, 220, 4.6), RB Eric Powell (5-10, 195, 4.4), LB Hunter Talley (5-9, 220, 4.5), WR/DB Jamari Dean (6-0, 185, 4.4), DL Dorian Coleman (6-1, 245, 4.8), DB Brayton Kinzie (6-0, 185, 4.5), WR Krew Bailey (6-3, 180, 4.5), LB Reeze Risner (5-11, 190, 4.6), WR/DB Micah Garcia (5-8, 160, 4.4), OL Dominick Sanchez, LB Jaiden Wetzel, TE Kenton Evans, DE Micah James, WR/DB Kaedyn Johnson, OL Jayden Wilson, DL Jayce Williams, DL Mateo Dehoyos.

2025 notes: The Mavericks are looking to build off a successful first season in program history. It'll help that they have a four-year starter at quarterback in Castles (2,580 yards, 31 TDs passing). The senior will have his top big-play threat in Dean (45-833 yards, 11 TDs receiving) and will share the backfield with a versatile playmaker in Powell (1,001 yards, 14 TDs rushing). The Mavericks won't be as strong offensively without 2-5A MVP Kenji Johnson, but they should be better defensively. Talley (116 tackles) and Wetzel (62 tackles, 7 sacks) provide speed at linebacker and S Kenzie is healthy again to lead the secondary. Memorial has inexperience at offensive line and in the secondary, but the Mavs have enough firepower to contend for a playoff spot in a quality district.

District 2-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Joe Castles, Wichita Falls Memorial

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Sione Vaea, Lubbock-Cooper

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Lubbock-Cooper (1,893)
2. Abilene Wylie (1,517)
3. Wichita Falls Memorial (1,695)
4. Amarillo Palo Duro (1,900)
5. Abilene Cooper (1,777.5)
6. Plainview (1,436)
7. Wichita Falls Legacy (1,868)

PALO DURO DONS

Coach: Eric Mims Sr. Lettermen R/L: 25/18. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Darien Lewis (6-1, 205), RB Raymond Johnson IV (5-10, 180), LB Keima'j Barnes (5-10, 200), WR Daniel Moses (6-1, 170), DL Awetik Rhama (6-1), LB Danquail Ashley (6-2, 185), QB Julian Reese II (6-3, 180), WR Kyrion Brown (6-2, 180), DL Keimaure Rayford (6-2, 240), DB Vern Blair, DB DJ Harris, RB AJ James, LB Zack Linton, DL Zylar Albonico, OL/DL Troy Robinson, WR Eric Mims Jr., DB Makoy Sims.

2025 notes: The Dons have the potential to have a breakout season by returning their key skill players from last year. Lewis (15 offensive TDs) has multiple FBS offers and can play any skill position. His versatility will help QB Reese (2,233 yards, 20 TDs passing), who enters his second season running the offense. RB Johnson (567 yards) has great field vision and can help in the passing game. LB Barnes has a nose for the football, having registered 174 tackles in 10 games as a junior. DL Rhama has a great wingspan and lots of potential, as does Rayford (5 sacks), who played as a freshman. Palo Duro has plenty of team speed, but the Dons lack size.

PLAINVIEW BULLDOGS

Coach: Wyatt Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 27/21. Starters returning O/D: 9/4. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Seth Mayberry (5-10, 180, 4.7), DB Zachary Soliz (5-10, 165, 4.7), DB Brock Nails (6-1, 177, 4.5), OL Ian Garza (6-0, 205, 5.0), RB Blaze Chambers (6-1, 210, 4.7), LB Adrian Hernandez (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR Jae'Breon Wideman (6-0, 165, 4.6), OL Derek Ramirez (5-10, 265, 5.4), DL Zeighdyn Borrego (6-0, 190, 4.8), WR Jordan Porter, OL Zach Perry, K Aaron Felon, DB Jaybren Barrera, TE/DL Daniel Cervantes, DL Danny Rodriguez, TE Isaiah Medina.

2025 notes: It all starts with dual-threat quarterback Mayberry (2,394 yards, 15 TDs passing), who is entering his fourth season as the starter and owns every school passing record. RB Chambers (427 yards, 8 TDs rushing) will run behind a Plainview offensive line that returns everybody, including Garza. Soliz (83 tackles) and Nails are three-year returning starters in the secondary. Mayberry's top two receivers graduated, so it'll be up to Porter (27-335 yards, 2 TDs receiving) and others to pick up the slack. If younger guys like LBs Hernandez and Borrego can help improve the defense, the Bulldogs could be in the mix for a playoff berth.

WYLIE BULLDOGS

Coach: Clay Martin. Lettermen R/L: 33/44. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 9-2 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Julius Lane (6-1, 225, 4.7), LB Bo Kates (6-0, 200, 4.8), WR/DB Dylan Regala (5-9, 175, 4.5), OL Mark Esquibel (6-1, 265, 5.0), OL Barrett Huffington (6-1, 275, 5.0), K Noah Rehburg (6-0, 160, 4.8), WR/DB Blaze Ruffin (6-3, 180, 4.7), TE Blake Frailing (6-0, 195, 4.8), DE Deandre Rodriguez, RB/CB Jordan Lockett, QB Jadin Karleskint, CB Mycah Smith, TE Aaron Edwards, DL Blake Ortiz, WR Cash Isbell.

2025 notes: If the Bulldogs are going to defend their district title, they'll need to rely on the legs of Lane and have several newcomers step up on defense. Lane (897 yards, 12 TDs rushing) is a physical runner who will help take some pressure off Karleskint at quarterback. WR Regala (34-526 yards, 5 TDs receiving) had an explosive sophomore season, while linemen Esquibel and Huffington are other established offensive pieces. The defense will revolve around LB Kates (105 tackles) while fellow junior Ruffin (3 INTs) gained valuable experience last year. Wylie lost a lot on the defensive side of the ball, but the Bulldogs have seniors like Rodriguez (2 sacks) and Ortiz ready to make an impact.



Wil
GUEVARA
OL
Houston Sterling



Isaiah
WASHINGTON
WR
Houston Milby



Sean
SIMON
RB
La Porte



Nian
GUZMAN
WR
Kyle Lehman

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

High School
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 3-5A DII Preview

ARGYLE EAGLES

Coach: Todd Rodgers. Lettermen R/L: 47/31. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 13-2 state semifinalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Maguire Gasperson (6-0, 195, 4.6), WR Julian Caldwell (6-1, 185, 4.5), TE Braden Bach (6-5, 235, 4.6), ATH Nathaniel Bruce (6-0, 200, 4.5), LB Max Bland (6-2, 250, 4.7), RB Watson Bell (5-7, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Brody Bomar (6-3, 230, 4.6), OL Braxton Firestone (6-4, 275). Top sophomore: OL Memphis Elsey (6-8, 315).

Other prospects: CB Maliek Bracy, LB Grayson Peschel, OL Keegan Lawson, DL Tyson O'Neal, WR Brooks Bryan, WR Ake O'Neal, DL Reno Hermann, OL Chansyn Bowen.

2025 notes: The Eagles advanced to the state semifinals for the second time in three seasons and another deep playoff run looks to be in the cards with 47 lettermen back and help from a 10-0 JV bunch. QB Gasperson (2,895 yards, 27 TDs passing; 382 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is back for a third season to pilot the offense. He has a bevy of weapons, including WR Caldwell (21-581, 7 TDs receiving), TE Bach (26-247, 3 TDs receiving) and RB Bell (1,329 yards, 20 TDs rushing). Argyle will again feature a massive offensive line. ATH Bruce (86 tackles, 2 INTs) is the leader of the defense and will also play some offense, as he ran for four touchdowns a year ago. LB Bland (103 tackles, 18 TFL, 5 sacks, 1 INT) is also back after a strong junior season.

BURLESON ELKS

Coach: Phillip Tanner. Lettermen R/L: 22/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jayden Flournoy (6-0, 180, 4.5), WR Ashtyn Johnson (5-8, 150, 4.4), DL Donya Armstrong (6-0, 255), LB Lawson Blanchard (6-1, 220, 4.6), RB Nate Jackson (5-7, 180, 4.7), OL Bryce Beach (6-0, 240). Top juniors: WR Andy Beach (6-1, 175, 4.8), DB Coy Watson (5-9, 155, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Paxton White (6-0, 265).

2025 notes: The Elks started out slowly in Tanner's first season but made some late season improvements to improve to a respectable 4-6 mark. There's some dynamic skill talent on the outside with the return of two-way dynamo Flournoy and Johnson, who burst on the scene a year ago as a freshman. RB Jackson is a steady force with the ground game and is very reliable. DL Armstrong is a menace on the defensive line; he's strong at the point of attack and quick enough to be disruptive in the backfield. Junior LB Blanchard had a good sophomore season, has solid instincts and a nose for the football. Inexperience at QB and in the secondary will be the biggest question marks going into fall camp.

EVERMAN BULLDOGS

Coach: Michael Boone. Lettermen R/L: 15/24. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Barrington Strickland (5-10, 160, 4.5), OL/DL Daniel Dickson (6-2, 230), OL/DL Kobe Parks (6-1, 265). Top juniors: OL/DL Dezmon Hill (6-1, 325), RB/LB Dameon Bedford (6-0, 190). Top sophomore: TE/DL Jaylin Smith (6-4, 235).

Other prospects: QB Kendrick Kennedy, ATH Maurice Donald, DB Jarie Stafford.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs suffered through their worst season since 1973 with just a single win, but there is hope on the horizon with some key contributors returning along with young players from a JV team that posted a competitive 6-4 mark. DB Strickland (39 tackles, 3 INTs) is a four-year varsity player who spent most of his time on defense a year ago but will also be a factor on offense in 2025. EHS will be solid in the trenches with the return of two-way linemen Dickson, Parks and Hill.

GRAPEVINE MUSTANGS

Coach: Ryan Smith. Lettermen R/L: 22/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/9. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: LB Luke Ghormley (6-1, 215, 4.6), LB Tatum Evans (6-3, 225, 4.7), WR Rylan Goin (6-1, 175, 4.5), WR Luke Stuart (6-0, 180, 4.6), RB/LB Cooper Towers (5-10, 195, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Will Mason (6-1, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Lanel Randolph (6-3, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/LB Jake Graham (5-10, 200, 4.6).

2025 notes: After hitting rock bottom in 2024, Grapevine brings in former ETBU offensive coordinator Ryan Smith to try and revive the program in one of the state's toughest districts. A pair of linebackers will be the headliners for the defense with the return of Ghormley and Evans. Both are elite in the box and will make the Grapevine defense stingy against the run. Where Grapevine will have questions on defense will primarily be along the defensive line, where they'll need to build depth and confidence. Grapevine will be young on offense, but Smith says they are excited about their group of WRs, led by Goin and Stuart. "We have to evolve the offense and become more multi-dimensional," said Smith.

HERITAGE PANTHERS

Coach: Jerry Edwards. Lettermen R/L: 25/24. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: DE De'Marius Logan (6-2, 255, 4.7), QB Bodey Weaver (6-4, 195, 4.7), LB Dax Hebeisen (6-1, 200, 4.7), OL Wesley Dallao-Kubik (6-4, 280), DB Hayden West (5-10, 190, 4.5), RB Jerrod Wiley (5-9, 155, 4.5). Top junior: OL Chandler Sampson (5-11, 285). Top sophomore: DT Isaiah Omar (6-2, 230, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Jaden Griffin, TE Blake Wendler, LB Joey Nisbet, K Landon Dressell, WR Connor Souphankhaisy, DT Nehemiah Olaiyiwola.

2025 notes: The Panthers fell in the first round of the playoffs a year ago, but expect to be much improved led by the return of eight starters on offense. QB Weaver (1,780 yards, 19 TDs passing) is back along with dynamic junior RB Wiley (647 yards, 5 TDs rushing). There's a veteran group of returning WRs, but the key will be who emerges as the leader of that unit. DE Logan (64 tackles, 10 TFL, 7 sacks) and LB Hebeisen (80 tackles, 2 INTs) return to lead the defense, while DB West (34 tackles, 5 INTs) moves to safety after playing on the outside a year ago. Edwards says a big concern is replacing three starters in the secondary.

SEQUIN COUGARS

Coach: Joe Gordon. Lettermen R/L: 28/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR G'Manii Smith (5-9, 165, 4.6), QB Chevy Andrews (5-9, 160, 4.5), DB Caryell Brown (6-1, 160, 4.6), WR Johnaven Polk (5-10, 170, 4.8), DB Arthur Horace (6-0, 170, 4.5), TE/LB Dashaun Marable (6-1, 205, 4.8). Top juniors: DB Jacob Bly (5-11, 175, 4.7), OL Braylen Johnson (6-4, 315). Top sophomore: WR/DB Keyon Meeky (5-7, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Kaden Lewis, DL Adrian Contreras, OL Justus Wright, RB Kadarrius Trotter, DB Michael Jackson, DL KJ Jefferson, OL Jackson Harris, RB Isaac Bly.

2025 notes: After a playoff appearance a year ago, the Cougars will look to replace a strong senior class that featured several three-year starters. The offense still has firepower with the return of QB Andrews, who tallied over 2,700 yards of offense and 36 total touchdowns. WR Smith had a total of 10 touchdowns a year ago and will be a key weapon along with WR Polk, who is back after missing the final five games of 2024. The Sequin secondary will be the strength of the defense with the return of talented junior DBs Brown and Bly (5 INTs). Gordon says inexperience is a big concern. "We are looking for new leaders to guide us after losing some good seniors, but I do like our unity and grit."

SUMMIT JAGUARS

Coach: Channon Hall. Lettermen R/L: 26/28. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 5-5/5-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Adarion Nettles (5-11, 185, 4.5), ATH Ian Gebhardt (5-10, 180, 4.5), WR Dominique Young (5-11, 170, 4.5), DB Avery Hardeman (6-0, 180, 4.5), DB Braylon McCoy (6-0, 170, 4.5), DE Cameron Hall (6-4, 240, 4.6), QB DeMarus Bird (6-4, 215). Top sophomore: ATH Cameron Franklin (5-11, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Reggie Williams, DL Aamir Bell, ATH Jamil McCown, DB Dorek Young, DL Daniel Ogiozee, LB Samuel Akapo, DL Jared Washington, DB Omogbolahan Daudu.

2025 notes: For the first time since 2018, the

District 3-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Maguire Gasperson, Argyle

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE De'Marius Logan, Colleyville Heritage

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Argyle (1,528)
2. Colleyville Heritage (1,843)
3. Mansfield Timberview (1,843)
4. Mansfield Summit (1,789)

5. Arlington Sequin (1,708)
6. Burleson (1,877)
7. The Colony (1,879)
8. Grapevine (1,780)
9. Everman (1,772)

Jaguars were on the outside looking in of the playoffs after a Week 11 loss to Arlington Sequin put them on the wrong end of a three-way tie. RB Nettles (1,067 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is the featured back and a dynamic big-play threat, while ATH Gebhart and WR Young combined for 14 touchdown receptions a year ago. The secondary will be the strength of the defense with the return of DBs Hardeman (4 INTs) and McCoy; both have great speed and good size to handle larger receivers. Hall says the biggest concern is youth in the trenches on both sides of the ball.

THE COLONY COUGARS

Coach: Rudy Rangel. Lettermen R/L: 24/17. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 4-6/2-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Xavier Green (6-0, 170), RB Kendrick McClodden (6-2, 205), TE/DE Vincent Canzano (6-5, 215), OL Kelvin Eiwo (6-4, 290), CB Noah Chavez (6-0, 180), S Tre Burton (5-10, 170). Top juniors: QB Jaylen Gaines (5-11, 175), DL Cameron Ramirez (6-3, 270). Top sophomore: CB Tristan Nalls (5-11, 165).

2025 notes: In their first season at the Division II level in 5A, the Cougars stumbled to a 4-6 record as the combination of a deep district and injuries kept Rangel's squad out of playoff contention. WR Green (50-837, 9 TDs receiving) is a dynamic weapon in the passing game, while tough-running McClodden (726 yards, 4 TDs rushing) can get yards between the tackles to keep the chains moving. QB Gaines (650 yards, 5 TDs passing) was pressed into duty because of injuries and showed plenty of promise. DL Ramirez (77 tackles, 3 sacks) had a good sophomore debut and will be counted on to provide leadership. The secondary will be stout with Chavez and Burton returning after each picked off five passes a year ago.

TIMBERVIEW WOLVES

Coach: Jacody Coleman. Lettermen R/L: 25/42. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: DB Chance Collins (6-2, 195, 4.5), WR/DB Davin Hill (5-11, 175, 4.5), LB Caden Bates (6-2, 210, 4.6), RB Cedric Portley (5-11, 200, 4.6), DB Jarvis Smith (6-1, 175, 4.5), WR/DB Braylin Barnett (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/DB Jacoby Easter (5-1, 165, 4.6), DE Oluwadolapo Oladeinde (6-3, 240, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB Steven Hall (6-1, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: DE Elijah Agbedeawu, LB Ernesto Chavez, DL Jason Sydnor, QB Mylex Davis, WR Loyace Grays, RB Keesan Selman, RB Taylor Hansen.

2025 notes: New head coach Jacody Coleman arrives in Mansfield after three seasons leading 6A Dallas Skyline and says the Wolves have the talent to be a contender, but need to improve their overall depth in a tough district. DB Collins (21 tackles, 5 INTs) is an elite back-end defender who has great speed and range, while speedy WR/DB Hill (27 tackles, 1 INT) is a player who will contribute on both sides. LB Bates is another physical specimen who will generate FBS interest. RB Portley (336 yards, 2 TDs rushing) leads an offense that will have to improve after they had major struggles in 2024. Getting QB Davis back will help after he was lost for the season on the second series of the season opener.

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 4-5A DII Preview

ANNA COYOTES

Coach: Seth Parr. Lettermen R/L: 38/18. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Peyton Miller (6-5, 300), QB Ziondre Williams (6-0, 170), WR Ace Traylor (5-10, 170), OL La'Sheem Nyantee (6-4, 235), DT Kaiden Banks, WR Michael Kennedy (5-11, 165). Top juniors: CB Troi Harris, K Desmar Marroquin. Top sophomore: DB Carter Mundine.

Other prospects: WR Josiah Smith, DE Cash Williams, WR Roaen Nylander, QB Tristan Nylander, WR Israel Johnson, OL Marcus Rivera, SS Austin Crowley, LB Brennan Williams.

2025 notes: Anna made quite the impression in their 5A debut by posting nine wins and a regional semifinal appearance. Digging deeper into the numbers, the Coyotes' four losses were by a combined 14 points. Coach Parr believes returning experience will be key to an even better 2025 season and it starts with QB Williams (4,308 yards, 38 TDs passing; 1,066 yards, 13 TDs rushing), who is one of the state's top signal-callers and is back for a third season starting. WR Traylor (49-648, 8 TDs receiving) will be the lead target, while OL Miller is among the country's top recruits in the trenches. Defense is where Anna will likely take the biggest step forward as the Coyotes were young on that side a year ago and bring back a wealth of experience.

DENISON YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Brent Whitson. Lettermen R/L: 16/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: DE Jayson Cannon (6-2, 200, 4.7), CB Shandan Love (6-1, 175, 4.6), QB/S Gavin Mandrell (6-4, 200, 4.6), S Trace Olsen (5-8, 165, 4.5), WR Brandon Douglas (5-10, 175, 4.8), LB Grayson McGehee (6-0, 210, 4.7). Top juniors: DE Chandler Lopez (6-2, 230, 4.8), LB Alex Camacho (5-10, 200, 4.7). Top sophomore: DT Tre'Kell Green (5-10, 240).

Other prospects: K/P Gavin Bach, OL Nathan Woods, OL Ryder Harrell.

2025 notes: Denison had its fair share of struggles a year ago and a lot of them started in the season opener when sophomore QB Mandrell was lost for the season - a loss Whitson said his team never recovered from. Getting Mandrell back along with WR Douglas (40-565, 4 TDs receiving) will be a big boost for the Jackets. Whitson says the defense will be young, but they have some key pieces back led by DE Cannon (25 tackles, 2 TFL, 3 sacks) and junior CB Love (22 tackles, 3 INTs), who had a monster sophomore season and will likely end up on the radar of plenty of FBS programs. Whitson says his team plays in one of the state's top districts and will need to get off to a fast start to build confidence.

EMERSON MAVERICKS

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 19/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Blake McLane (6-2, 190, 4.5), LB Jaxon Cannida (6-3, 220, 4.6), DE Brandon Clemens (6-0, 220, 4.7), RB Presha Allen (5-9, 175, 4.5), OL Austin Pellitier (6-2, 245), DE Parker Reese (6-0, 215, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Dave Taffo (6-2, 210, 4.6), WR Jason Wooden (6-0, 185, 4.6). Top sophomore: QB Andrew Adame (6-2, 190, 4.7).

Other prospects: ATH Tyler Smith, OL Demond Johnson, DE Brady Mensik, QB Max Molstad, WR/DB Kaden Reyes, WR Wyatt Spears, K John Pacheco, WE Dean Waldron.

2025 notes: The Mavericks followed up a state semifinal run in 2023 with a playoff appearance in the state's toughest district a year ago. There are some question marks heading into the year, including head coach after Kendall Miller became Plano ISD's athletic director. Whoever wins the QB job will have an explosive playmaker on the outside in WR McLane (40-585, 8 TDs receiving). RB Allen will be the featured back after rushing for eight scores a year ago. LB Cannida (77 tackles, 12 TFL, 7 sacks) is an explosive playmaker off the edge and will be the key cog in the defense. The biggest concerns for the defense will be rebuilding the entire secondary, which was lost to graduation.

INDEPENDENCE KNIGHTS

Coach: Nick Stokes. Lettermen R/L: 10/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Adhiraj Krishna, DE Tyler Humphrey, TE/LB Casen Roberts, RB/DB Justin Lanham.

2025 notes: It's been a tough go the last two years for Frisco Independence, which has won just three games after seeing much lower numbers in the program. The positive is Stokes says the Knights are expected to have as many as 40 players suited out in 2025. OL Krishna is back and is a two-year starter in the middle of the offensive line. With six starters back, the defense will be the strength for the Knights with DE Humphrey (50 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 sacks) and TE/LB Roberts (38 tackles, 4 TFL). "Our kids have had a good offseason, and we've got several seniors who have multiple years of varsity reps," said Stokes.

LIBERTY REDHAWKS

Coach: Chip Gregory. Lettermen R/L: 21/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Myles McClain (5-10, 165, 4.6), ATH Brody Schramek (5-10, 185, 4.6), RB Daniel Essien (5-6, 170, 4.5), WR Declan Hurley (6-0, 175, 4.5), QB Khi Bunting (6-2, 190, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Ibrahim Lotfi (6-3, 295), DT Jordan Allen (6-3, 335). Top sophomore: QB Haroon Zaki (5-10, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: New head coach Chip Gregory was promoted to the spot early in the offseason and he'll try to inject life into a program that has just two winning seasons since 2012. Gregory says his two sophomore starters, WR/DB McClain and ATH Schramek, "have the potential to be household names in Texas high school football." RB Essien (319 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is a three-year letterman and will take over as the featured back, while QB Bunting (744 yards, 10 TDs passing) returns for a second year as the starter on a veteran offense. Gregory says unlike the offense, the defense is young and that youth will be a question mark heading into fall camp.

LOVEJOY LEOPARDS

Coach: Todd Dodge. Lettermen R/L: 34/35. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 10-4 region finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jacob Janacek (6-1, 195, 4.7), LB Aston Whiteside (6-2, 200, 4.6), OL Major Smith (6-2, 285), DE Marshall Brannum (6-4, 220, 4.8), LB Andy Turnbow (6-0, 180, 4.7), WR Coleman Reaugh (6-3, 170, 4.6), DL Ty Smith (6-0, 245). Top juniors: OL/DL Jackson Monda (6-2, 215, 4.9), DB Braydon Gills (5-8, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Jayden Thompson (6-5, 285).

Other prospects: WR Travis Shegog, RB Zach Jones, LB Barrett Puckett, OL Daniel Mendez, CB Liam McIntosh, OL/DL Braxton Burris, WR Brody Speiran.

2025 notes: It was a successful return to coaching for Todd Dodge, who led the Leopards back to a regional final in Year 1 where they fell for the fourth time in the last five seasons. QB Janacek (2,726 yards, 35 TDs passing; 846 yards, 17 TDs rushing) is back after a monster junior season and will lead an offense that has some pieces to replace, but still has a chance to be dynamic. Sophomore WR Reaugh (27-451, 8 TDs receiving) had a tremendous freshman debut and should emerge as one of the next top WRs in the state. Junior LB Whiteside (105 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 INTs) was district newcomer of the year as a sophomore. He'll team with fellow junior LB Turnbow (68 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 sacks, 3 INTs) to pace the Lovejoy defense.

MELISSA CARDINALS

Coach: Matt Nally. Lettermen R/L: 30/40. Starters returning O/D: 3/9. 2024: 6-4/5-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Max Wright (6-8, 295), S Rocky Dunn (6-1, 215, 4.6), LB Max Corbin (6-2, 220, 4.6), WR Travis Dababneh (6-1, 195, 4.5), WR Jacob Swain (6-2, 205, 4.5). Top juniors: TE Wyatt Harry (6-6, 230, 4.8), DL Brenham Cherne (6-3, 260, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL Jerry Graves (6-3, 290).

Other prospects: DB Jerod Potucek, DB Dumi Gatson, LB Jaylon Frazier, OL Keaton Frazier, RB/LB Zayd Shahed, OL Uche Dimpka, DL Kyndal Taylor, RB/LB Phayton Porter.

2025 notes: The Cardinals fell all the way to fifth

District 4-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Ziondre Williams, Anna

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Aston Whiteside, Lovejoy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Anna (1,490)
2. Lucas Lovejoy (1,593)
3. Prosper Walnut Grove (1,716)
4. Melissa (1,762.5)
5. Frisco Emerson (1,763)
6. Denison (1,371.5)
7. Frisco Memorial (1,464)
8. Frisco Independence (1,671)
9. Frisco Liberty (1,731)

place in a brutal district and shockingly missed out on the playoffs in 2024. S Dunn (56 tackles) is the ringleader of the defense, but LB Corbin is back and will be a big part of a veteran defense with good depth, as several rotational pieces are back. The offense has more holes to fill, however, and Nally says despite the youth, Melissa will be more explosive on that side of the ball. WRs Dababneh (15-321, 2 TDs receiving) and Swain are back on the outside along with OL Wright, who is the latest highly recruited MHS offensive lineman. The biggest question marks will be settling on a QB and shoring up the kicking game.

MEMORIAL WARRIORS

Coach: Jeff Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 23/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: DB Jalal Abdullah (6-2, 175), LB Hunter Metcalf (5-11, 200), WR AJ Warren (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB Beckett Martin (5-10, 175), DB Kevon Jackson (5-9, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: WR Landon Diehl (5-9, 165, 4.6), OL Rhett Bassham (5-11, 250).

Other prospects: LB Jose Ramos, QB Ben Wilson, DB Jason White, DL Carter Smith, OL/DL Gavin Snider, K Mateo Gentile, RB Xavier Foster.

2025 notes: After going with a youth movement in 2024, Jackson is hoping it pays off in 2025 as the Warriors welcome back 17 starters, including 10 on the defensive side of the ball. DB Abdullah is a three-year starter and the leader of the secondary, and Jackson believes he's an FBS talent. WR Warren is a dynamic junior who has started since his freshman season, while RB Martin is a three-year letterman looking for a breakout campaign. There are playmakers abound; it'll be up to QB Wilson to distribute it to the outside. "The last two seasons we've heavily relied on young guys, the tide is turning and we have some experience," said Jackson.

WALNUT GROVE WILDCATS

Coach: Tommy Allison. Lettermen R/L: 27/42. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 11-2 5A DII regional semifinalist/8-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Cameron Newton (5-11, 185), QB Hayes Hackney (5-10, 170), WR Hayden Cooley (5-11, 190), LB Keller Pittinger (6-2, 205), LB Brock Hatcher (6-2, 215), OL Lucas Hickey (6-3, 275). Top junior: OL Jackson Hooker (6-3, 280). Top sophomore: DT Chris Williams (5-9, 295).

Other prospect: WR Zaiden Crain.

2025 notes: It was an incredible debut season for the Wildcats, who made a third-round playoff run. So what will they do for an encore? Allison says a large senior class that provided great leadership will be hard to replace, but there is talent returning, headlined by RB Newton (2,017 yards, 30 TDs rushing) and sophomore QB Hackney (3,645 yards, 40 TDs passing). WRs Cooley and Crain combined for well over 1,000 receiving yards, so don't expect the dynamic offense to slow down if they can find some young offensive linemen to step into key roles. The strength of the defense will be at LB with the return of Pittinger (91 tackles) and Hatcher, who missed all of 2024 with an injury.

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CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 5-5A DII Preview

ADAMSON LEOPARDS

Coach: Claudio Urbina. Lettermen R/L: 18/14. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 5-5/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Kameron White (5-10, 195, 4.6), OL Sebastian Paz (6-3, 320), WR/DB Tramon Tyler (5-8, 150, 4.7), OL Naythan Sanchez (6-4, 270), DL Angel De Leon (6-0, 240), DL Bryan Monsivais (6-3, 365). Top juniors: WR David Jermany (5-6, 135, 4.8), OL Luis Parales (5-9, 280). Top sophomore: RB Zaiden Gardner (5-9, 155, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB Jaylon Jones, RB Corey Mosely, DB Samuel Hollins.

2025 notes: Adamson came within one game of a return to the playoffs a year ago and Urbina believes the Leopards can take the next step in 2025 with a veteran offensive line and depth at RB. RB White (885 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 91 tackles, 2 INTs) is expected to be the featured back, while the staff is excited about the potential of sophomore RB Gardner. OLs Paz and Sanchez are the leaders of that veteran group on the offensive line. Adamson brings back experience up front on defense with DLs De Leon (34 tackles, 1 sack) and Monsivais (25 tackles) returning. Urbina says finding a quarterback will be the big key heading into fall camp.

HILLCREST PANTHERS

Coach: Adrian Madise. Lettermen R/L: 14/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Asher Randall (6-0, 175), LB Luis Montoya-Espinal (5-11, 200), S Evan Lewis (6-0, 165), S Zion Stevens-Braziel (5-9, 160), OL Thomas Rohrman (5-10, 250), OL Zion King (6-2, 280). Top junior: WR Khari Bass (6-1, 175).

Other prospects: CB Lincoln Hunter, OL Anderson Hewitt, RB Jayden Harris.

2025 notes: The Panthers put together a strong district runner-up season in Madise's first year at the helm, and with the return of senior QB Randall (2,176 yards, 16 TDs passing), Madise expects the Panthers to be in the mix to again host a bi-district playoff game. Randall will operate behind a veteran offensive line anchored by OLs Rohrman and King, however HHS does have some questions at the skill spots with inexperience being a concern. Sophomore LB Montoya-Espinal had a big freshman season and will now take on the leadership role for the defense along with junior S Stevens-Braziel, who made an impact as a sophomore. Madise says youth along the defensive line will be the big question going into fall camp.

JEFFERSON PATRIOTS

Coach: Bobby Estes. Lettermen R/L: 26/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Nehemiah Alexander (6-0, 165, 4.7), RB/LB Aaron Oliva (5-9, 175, 4.8), TE/LB Elian Espinosa (5-9, 185, 4.9), ATH Latavian Williams (5-7, 155, 4.7), TE/DL Sami Gamez (5-10, 225), WR/DB Noah Grams (6-0, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Aston Broadnax (5-11, 225), OL Anthony Quiroz (5-9, 245). Top sophomore: TE/DL Leo Torres (6-1, 245).

2025 notes: Under Estes' leadership, the Patriots have slowly become a more competitive football team inside of district play and the program numbers continue to increase. ATH Alexander (28 tackles, 3 INTs) may slide over to offense this year and play some QB as the Patriots lost some dynamic skill players. RB/LB Oliva (338 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 35 tackles, 1 INT) is another key two-way player who the Patriots will lean heavily upon. ATH Williams (12-201, 2 TDs receiving; 2 INTs) is an explosive athlete Estes says will play some WR, RB, CB and may also be involved in the return game. "Last year was the first time we had a true offseason in a few

years, so we need to continue the progress we've made," Estes said.

SAMUELL SPARTANS

Coach: Michael Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2025: 3-7/0-7 district.

Players to watch: RB Kezaylan Ware (5-11, 190), ATH I'Zayveion Perry (5-10, 180, 4.5), OL Anthony Robinson (6-3, 275), LB Dedrick Taylor (6-2, 210), LB Justin Banks (5-10, 160). Top sophomore: OL/DL TeCori Gines (6-3, 220).

2025 notes: After a tumultuous 2024 season, the Spartans turn to new coach Johnson, who comes from the Duncanville staff and has two TAPPS state titles to his name. RB Ware (1,050 yards, 22 TDs rushing) is an absolute force for the offense and will lead the way. Cobbin also likes the versatility of ATH Perry, who tallied over 1,300 yards combined rushing and receiving. Samuell's defense will be carried by their two outstanding linebackers in Taylor (10 sacks) and Banks (85 tackles, 7 sacks). An offensive line led by Anthony Robinson will be the team's biggest strength, but there are concerns about heavy graduation losses in the secondary.

SEAGOVILLE DRAGONS

Coach: Gordon Booker. Lettermen R/L: 11/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Adam West (6-0, 170, 4.5), WR/DB J'Dereck Anderson (5-11, 160, 4.6), OL Josiah Royal (6-2, 250), RB/DB Kollin Williams (6-0, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Rickey Wilkins (5-10, 135, 4.5), WR James Roberts (5-10, 150, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB/DB Bently Cosby (5-9, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: TE/LB Jaylen Beauchamp, RB/DE Kelvin Gates, ATH Trui Word, DB Francis Perkins, WR/DB Daviontae Smith, OL/DL Gabriel Bustamante, WR/DB Jeremiah Thompson, LB Darryl Donahue.

2025 notes: The Dragons were able to get into the playoffs in Booker's first season at the helm with a young team and believes his team will make some strides in Year 2, but depth and youth are still concerns. WR West (47-74.9, 7 TDs receiving) is a two-sport first-team all-district selection and will be the top weapon for the Seagoville attack. OL Royal is an anchor up front having earned all-district honors as a sophomore. WR/DB Anderson (22 tackles, 2 INTs, 8-144, 1 TD receiving) is a two-way standout with great ball skills, according to Booker. RB/DB Williams (45 tackles, 2 TFL) had a strong season in the secondary as a sophomore and could get a look to take over at running back.

SOUTH OAK CLIFF GOLDEN BEARS

Coach: Jason Todd. Lettermen R/L: 38/31. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 13-3 state finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Kordae Houston (6-3, 280), LB Jamarion Phillips (6-1, 220), DB Marcell Gipson (5-11, 175), OL Cortavious Tisaby (6-6, 270), RB Mikail Trotter (5-9, 180), RB Levon Morton (5-7, 175). Top juniors: OL Brian Swanson (6-5, 310), DL Jaderian Jones (6-2, 300). Top sophomore: WR/DE Christian Ivy (6-4, 220).

Other prospects: DB Rickey Giles, DL Brandon Hightower, DL Leighton Henderson, OL Brison Ramsey-Brooks, OL Zion Ragster, WR Jaylen Moore, WR Nate Coleman, WR Torrin Teague.

2025 notes: SOC has now played in four straight state title games. Despite falling short two straight years, the dynasty that has been built is impressive. The Bears are favorites to get back to Jerry World on the strength of elite play in the trenches. DL Houston is one of the state's most underrated defensive line prospects and will lead that unit along with Power

District 5-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Mikail Trotter, South Oak Cliff

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jamarion Phillips, South Oak Cliff

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Dallas South Oak Cliff (1,579)
2. Dallas Hillcrest (1,592)
3. Dallas Wilson (1,798)
4. Dallas Samuell (1,886)
5. Dallas Seagoville (1,830)
6. Dallas Adamson (1,404)
7. Dallas Jefferson (1,473)
8. Dallas Spruce (1,468)

Four commits LB Phillips and DB Gipson. SOC's offensive line is elite, as well, with another P4 commit in Tisaby and talented junior OL Swanson leading the way. The running game is outstanding with the return of RBs Trotter (1,176 yards, 18 TDs rushing) and Morton (1,103 yards, 9 TDs rushing). Todd says inexperience at the QB spot will be the big question mark going into 2025.

SPRUCE TIMBERWOLVES

Coach: Carl Richardson. Lettermen R/L: 13/11. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jayden Bahlman (6-2, 180), ATH Zakemon Rannon (5-10, 160), ATH Ethan Fairley (5-10, 170), ATH Evan Fairley (5-10, 170), OL/DL RayQuan Kelley (6-2, 290). Top juniors: ATH Eric Price (5-7, 140), QB Javeon Runnels (6-1, 160).

2025 notes: After a challenging 2024 campaign, veteran head coach Carl Richardson is looking to turn Spruce back into a playoff contender. If it's going to happen, it'll be due to much improved team speed and athleticism with versatile playmakers like Bahlman, Rannon, Ethan Fairley and Evan Fairley all returning and slated to be impact players in all three phases. Junior QB Runnels is slated to take over the offense on a full-time basis. OL/DL Kelley is one of the few players returning in the trenches. Richardson says depth will be the team's top concerns heading into the fall.

WILSON WILDCATS

Coach: Keylon Kincade. Lettermen R/L: 18/27. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Luke Walsh (6-3, 180, 4.5), RB/LB Kennedy Shoulders (5-10, 185, 4.6), RB Ethan Ramirez (5-7, 170, 4.6), OL Tyler Amaya (5-9, 245), DB Jayden Yager (5-10, 160, 4.7), DB Will Holbrook (5-8, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Hayes Griggs (6-0, 325), WR Warren Redmond (5-11, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: DL Joseph Melendi (6-2, 255).

Other prospect: WR/DB Ryan Newman. 2025 notes: New head coach Keylon Kincade has plenty of experience as a head coach, as he spent 10 seasons leading Winona's program. He takes over a Wildcats squad in transition with just four starters back on both sides of the ball. WR/DB Walsh (33-518, 8 TDs receiving), who holds multiple college offers, is a long and explosive playmaker on both sides of the ball. RB Ramirez (292 yards, 4 TDs rushing) showed promise as a sophomore and will be expected to carry the load for the running game. RB/LB Shoulders (27 tackles, 3 TFL) will lead the defense along with a pair of returning playmakers in the secondary in DB Yager (17 tackles, 1 sack) and DB Holbrook (32 tackles).

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 6-5A DII Preview

CORSICANA TIGERS

Coach: Eugene Rogers. Lettermen R/L: 26/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: ATH Mark Brown (6-1, 185, 4.5), WR/CB Damone Brown (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL Max Gomez (6-2, 305), DT Tanner Crumpton (5-10, 300), RB Kristian Evans (5-10, 170, 4.6), RB Kenan Murphy (5-9, 180, 4.6), Top juniors: LB Allen Walker (5-9, 185, 4.6), DB Frank Jackson (5-7, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: TE/DE Braxton Stoner (5-10, 180, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Adrian Bivins, S Markiece Cooks, DE Josiah Lopez, WR CJ Davis, WR Johnathan Gray, QB JaBraylon Jones, OL Triston Herod, S Amontra McCowan.

2025 notes: The Tigers struggled in their first season under Rogers, but a full offseason along with a veteran defense has the coaching staff hopeful that improvement can be made in 2025. The running game should be a strength of the offense with the return of three starters on the offensive line along with two veteran ball carriers in Evans and Murphy. ATH Brown is one of many speedy playmakers and has the ability to play multiple positions on either side of the ball. DT Crumpton is the anchor in the middle of the defense, while WR/CB led the team in touchdown catches and is also the top returner in the secondary. Rogers says the passing game must get more consistent if Corsicana wants to move into playoff contention in 2025.

CRANDALL PIRATES

Coach: Darrell Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 29/24. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Jeremiah Douglas (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB Kimothly Pace (5-10, 195, 4.8), TE Camden Jackson (6-1, 175, 4.9), DB Lemahjae Collins (5-11, 175, 4.7), DT Mark Jackson (5-10, 220), CB Jamal Logan (5-11, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: DE Aiden Jones, OL Brownie Relish Jr.

2025 notes: Former defensive coordinator Darrell Lewis takes over a Crandall squad fresh off a 10-win season and a trip to the area playoffs a year ago. The explosive offense has some pieces to replace but getting WR Douglas (74-1,205, 14 TDs receiving) back is a great place to start. RB Pace (438 yards, 5 TDs rushing) should be the featured back in the Crandall attack. DT Jackson (25 tackles, 3 sacks) will be the leader of the front seven, while Crandall's secondary looks to be in good shape with the return of DB Collins (80 tackles, 3 INTs) and CB Logan (37 tackles). Lewis says youth in key spots is his biggest concern going into his head coaching debut in 2025.

ENNIS LIONS

Coach: Don Drake. Lettermen R/L: 25/25. Starters returning O/D: 3/9. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Chris Martinez (6-0, 180, 4.8), DL Damion Baizar (6-3, 210, 4.7), LB Xavier Collins (5-11, 220, 4.7), LB Cash Hendrix (6-0, 225, 4.8), TE Ayden Jones (6-1, 200, 4.8), WR Kylan Johnson (6-0, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Adrian Navarro (6-1, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Klijah Parker (5-11, 260).

Other prospects: RB Wenderius Jones, DB Jaylon Kidd, OL Jack Holland, WR/DB Kainoa Bright, OL Jamarquis Dickerson, DB Chris Trent, DL Rennick Baizar, ATH Ryder Newman.

2025 notes: New head coach Don Drake will look to get the Lions back into the playoffs after a disappointing 2024 campaign. QB Martinez, who led the JV to a 7-2 mark, will take over the offense with TE Jones (14-191, 3 TDs receiving) being the top returning playmaker. Expect the Lions to lean heavily on their veteran defense that returns nine starters with the headliners being DL Baizar and a pair of dynamic LBs in Collins (59 tackles) and Hendrix (104 tackles). Drake likes his senior leadership, but says inexperience along the

offensive line will be the biggest concern heading into the season.

GREENVILLE LIONS

Coach: David Collins. Lettermen R/L: 15/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Chris Whytus (5-7, 160, 4.6), QB Phoenix Rodriguez (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL Julian Sixtos (6-5, 275), OL/DL Mareo Valentine (6-1, 260), RB/LB Zayden Armstrong-Teeters (5-10, 215), OL Levi Davenport (6-4, 275). Top junior: DL Lagarin Savage (5-10, 285). Top sophomore: WR/DB Brayveon Colbert (5-9, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: TE Daymien Bankston, LB Jamorian Hamilton.

2025 notes: After having three different head coaches in a six-month span last year, it was a stable and quiet offseason for the Lions. Collins says the growth has been impressive. There's still a lot of youth for the Lions at the skill spots, with sophomore QB Rodriguez leading the way after an impressive freshman debut. Junior WR Whytus is an explosive weapon on the outside, while the trenches are solid with the return of Sixtos, Valentine and Davenport. There are questions on defense, particularly in the front seven, but the staff likes the potential of junior DL Savage who could be an anchor in the middle of the defensive line.

HERITAGE JAGUARS

Coach: Eric Edwards. Lettermen R/L: 22/35. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Za'ko Davis (5-10, 170, 4.5), OL Ryan Kerr (6-1, 235), WR/DB Brayden Abila (5-11, 160, 4.5), QB/LB Jaylin Hawkins (6-0, 195, 4.8), LB Owen Menicucci (6-0, 200, 4.8), DL Jonathan Anderson (6-0, 235). Top juniors: TE/DE Luke McCain (6-1, 215, 4.6), WR/DB Zach Hagerty (5-10, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Wyatt Wagner (6-8, 255).

Players to watch: RB/DB Aaron Cowans, WR Koen Goralski, WR Camden Parker, QB/LB Dax Montelongo, TE/DE Jaymes Bell, RB/DB Riley Norton, TE/DE Charles Lee, DL Demerick Isaac.

2025 notes: The Jaguars rolled to a district title a year ago and will enter 2025 as the favorite in 6-5A Division II. RB Davis (1,263 yards, 19 TDs rushing) is a dynamic back with big-play ability and will be the center of the offense, as the Jags will break in a new signal-caller. OL Kerr is the leader in the trenches, while QB/LB Hawkins (90 tackles, 7 TFL, 4 sacks) will be one of the guys who gets a look at QB. LB Menicucci (62 tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks) had a monster freshman season and is back along with WR/DB Abila (43 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 INTs), who is a four-year varsity player. Edwards says returning experience along the defensive line is a strength as the Jags move into fall camp.

KAUFMAN LIONS

Coach: Jeremy Burleson. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Aljour Miles (6-3, 210, 4.5), LB Cole Martin (6-1, 220, 4.7), RB Elijah Rose (5-8, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Chance Fanus (6-0, 185, 4.6), QB Devin Fivecoat (6-1, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Brody Burks (6-2, 180, 4.7), DL Julian Diera (6-0, 245, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Lions moved back to Class 5A last year and made an impact with an area round playoff appearance. A solid core returns as Kaufman looks to prove they can be a consistent winner in 6-5A Division II. WR Miles (79-1,437, 14 TDs receiving), who holds several FBS offers, is a force on the outside and demands constant attention from the defense. RB Rose (622 yards, 7 TDs rushing) missed six games a year ago and if healthy gives the Lions attack plenty of balance. The defense has some headliners, as well, with junior LB Martin (109 tackles, 22 TFL, 3 sacks) and WR/DB Fanus who picked off six passes as a

District 6-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Aljour Miles, Kaufman

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Noah Lewis, Terrell

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Midlothian Heritage (1,605)
2. Crandall (1,824)
3. Terrell (1,502)
4. Ennis (1,855)
5. Kaufman (1,341)
6. Mesquite Poteet (1,532)
7. Corsicana (1,774)
8. Greenville (1,626)

junior in 2024. Burleson says inexperience on the offensive line and a lack of depth are big questions going into the fall.

POTEET PIRATES

Coach: Terrance Orr. Lettermen R/L: 26/27. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: DL Keith Dotie (6-4, 320), LB Elijah Wade (6-0, 200), LB Montreal Hodge (6-2, 190), WR Jabari Williams (6-0, 185), RB Dylan Davis (5-11, 175), WR Nile Rivers (5-9, 165). Top juniors: RB Kevin Woodburn (5-11, 185), DL Norman Drew (6-0, 280). Top sophomore: DB Jacob Pillard (5-11, 180).

Other prospects: WR Kyler Cornelius, QB Kevin Joiner Jr., WR/DB Ja'Veon Humphries, DB Devin Watkins, QB Isaiah Hall, DB Fuad Onala, OL Anthony Saenz, OL Giovanni Saigado.

2025 notes: New head coach Terrance Orr is looking to restore Poteet back to the days when they were one of the top 5A programs in the DFW area, but the road back will be long as Poteet has won just four games in the past three seasons combined. The defense will be the Pirates' strength with the return of dominant DL Dotie, who holds multiple FBS offers. LBs Wade and Hodge are "run and hit" linebackers who can cover a ton of ground. Poteet has some good skill talent back, as well, with WRs Williams and Rivers and RB Davis. Orr says returning experience is a strength, but there's still a lack of depth on hand. Overall, this is a team that has to build confidence after three straight difficult seasons.

TERRELL TIGERS

Coach: Marvin Sedberry Jr. Lettermen R/L: 28/15. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Noah Lewis (5-9, 175, 4.6), RB Roderick Hambrick Jr. (5-9, 150, 4.5), OL Cedrick Taylor (6-0, 275), OL Carson Baskin (6-0, 275), DL Zamontay Smith (6-0, 260), RB Julian Ashley (5-5, 150, 4.7). Top juniors: QB Nolan Hall (5-8, 165), OL Brendan Ruff (5-7, 225). Top sophomore: OL Justice Hutchins (6-2, 270).

Other prospects: OL Christian Gordon, RB Oscar Soto, DL Keenan Morrow, DB Carlos Turner, LB Caeden Valentine, DB Elijah Weber, DB Jabez Baker, DL Asa Komissarov.

2025 notes: Fresh off a playoff appearance a year ago, the Tigers are looking to make a move toward the top of 6-5A Division II with a veteran team returning. WR/DB Lewis is a big-play threat on both sides of the ball with three touchdown receptions and three interceptions on defense. RB Hambrick Jr. (886 yards, 12 TDs rushing) will lead the Wing-T offense as he works behind an experienced offensive line anchored by Taylor and Baskin. DL Smith is a force along the defensive line and will need to provide leadership as there are some holes to fill on defense as just five starters return. Sedberry says inexperience, especially in the secondary, will be a major concern.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 5A
HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 7-5A DII Preview

HALLSVILLE BOBCATS

Coach: Josh Strickland. Lettermen R/L: 30/26. Starters returning: 5/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DB/QB Blanton Hale (6-1, 180, 4.5), WR Coulter Evans (6-0, 197, 4.6), OL Daun Thompson (6-2, 240, 4.9), DB Drew Linville (6-1, 180, 4.6), OL Clay Eitelman, TE Eli Solis, DL Remington Mills, DL Chris Hutton, DL Noah Collins.

2025 notes: The Bobcats finished 1-9 in 2023, and things weren't looking much better in 2024 after a 1-4 start and a 56-0 loss in the district opener. But, Strickland rallied the troops and Hallsville got on a roll and won three of five to close out the regular season before putting up a solid fight in a loss to Port Neches-Groves in the playoffs. Some players will move around this season, with DB Hale (128 tackles, 2 TFL) also listed at QB and WR Evans expected to play some RB. Thompson and Eitelman (5-11, 250), along with TE Solis (6-3, 205) will anchor the offensive line, and Mills (6-3, 285) gives the Bobcats a physical specimen up front on the defensive front.

JACKSONVILLE INDIANS

Coach: Montey Stevenson. Lettermen R/L: 15/20. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Ben Bolten (6-2, 190, 4.6), RB Radarrius Sirls (5-10, 180, 4.5), LB/TE Elijah Benavides (5-10, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Calvin Boyd (5-11, 270, 5.1), WR/DB Samodrick Kincade (6-0, 160, 4.6), TE/DL Camryn Thompson (6-3, 230, 4.9), RB/DB Jordyn McGowan (5-9, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Isaac Suarez-Mosley (5-9, 155, 4.6), RB/LB Alex Polk (5-9, 170, 4.7), QB/DB Jordan Casel, WR/DB Ja'Qualyn Holman, OL/DL Zayden Paulk, WR/DB Macai Spencer, RB/LB Saeshaewn Simmons, OL/DL Dailon McGowan, WR Billy McCown, WR/DB J'Braelyn Jimenez.

2025 notes: A tradition-rich program that has fallen on hard times recently – going 4-26 the past three seasons and looking for its first playoff berth since 2017 – brought in former Alvarado defensive coordinator Stevenson as its head coach in hopes of turning things around. The Indians will be young, and Stevenson said he'll count on some sophomores to play valuable roles. RB Sirls (520 yards, 2 TDs rushing) has good size and speed and put up solid numbers as a sophomore last season, and the defense welcomes back holdovers in LB Benavides (82 tackles), DL Boyd (39 tackles, 3 sacks) and DB McGowan (2 INTs). The JV finished with four wins, so help could also be coming from that group.

MARSHALL MAVERICKS

Coach: Jason Hammett. Lettermen R/L: 20/27. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Landon Jones (6-0, 225, 4.8), QB Alton Henderson (5-7, 165, 4.6), OL Eric Perkins (6-4, 330, 5.7). Top juniors: OL Errick Clough (5-10, 240, 5.3), DL Breon Williams (6-1, 333, 5.7). Top sophomore: Aidyn Green (5-9, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Denijh Montgomery, DB Jordan Deckard, DB Justin Murry, WR Jamarion Sparks, DB Monta Haynes, OL Antwone Sims, TE Russel Crawford.

2025 notes: After back-to-back six-win playoff seasons, the Mavericks made a major move by piling up 10 wins under new coach Hammett. Inexperience at the skill positions are a concern, but QB Henderson (1,385 yards passing; 700 yards rushing) makes the offense dangerous. He'll need help after the Mavericks lost a pair of 1,000-yard rushers. Henderson (692 yards, 10 TDs rushing) put up solid numbers despite not being one of the featured backs, and both he and Montgomery will benefit from operating behind road-grading OL Perkins. Jones (124 tackles, 12 sacks) is a big-time hitter and playmaker returning to lead the defense, and DL Williams (25 tackles) could be a terror up front on the defensive side.

MOUNT PLEASANT TIGERS

Coach: Joe Cluley. Lettermen R/L: 30/20. Starters returning: 7/9. 2024: 3-7/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DB DeCorian Thompson (5-11, 175, 4.4), DL Ayden Johnson (6-2, 315, 4.9), RB Tony Grant (5-8, 180, 4.5), DL Nehemiah Savage (6-0, 275, 4.8), LB Ashad Smith (6-1, 200, 4.6), DL Emmanuel Harris (6-4, 235, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Brandon McCoo (6-0, 215, 4.6), WR/DB BJ Brannon (5-8, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: LB Lincoln Dyke (6-3, 215, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Carter Cook, OL Tyland Jones, OL Corben Craig, TE Landon Cheatum.

2025 notes: A young team struggled last season, but the Tigers won two of three to end the season and the JV notched six victories, so the outlook is bright. Thompson (32-600 yards, 6 TDs; 45 tackles, 3 INTs) is a two-way standout with multiple college offers, and coach Cluley says Texas Tech verbal pledge Johnson (55 tackles, 15 TFL, 5 sacks) is one of the country's best defensive tackles. Expect Grant (1,125 yards, 10 TDs rushing; 16-225 yards, 2 TDs receiving) to get his hands on the ball 20 times per game, and QB Cook (1,500 yards passing; 300 yards rushing; 25 total TDs) is a physical runner and leader of the offense. LB Smith (84 tackles, 22 TFL, 7 sacks) is a major headache for opposing offenses.

District 7-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Tradarian Ball, Texas High

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Landon Jones, Marshall

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Texarkana Texas High (1,826.5)
2. Marshall (1,498)
3. Mount Pleasant (1,562)
4. Whitehouse (1,477)
5. Hallsville (1,492.5)
6. Nacogdoches (1,818)
7. Jacksonville (1,391)

NACOGDOCHES DRAGONS

Coach: Darby House. Lettermen R/L: 32/6. Starters returning: 9/11. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Micah Lockett (6-3, 185, 4.5), ATH R.J. Whitaker, OL Chris Castillo (6-2, 285), LB Landon Sherrard (6-1, 195), LB JaBrandon Rushing (6-2), DL Caden Thomas (6-3). Top junior: DB Keshun Hightower. Top sophomore: LB Braylon Horton (6-0).

Other prospects: OL Ulises Sanches, OL Jamaylon Rogers, DL Chris Gardner.

2025 notes: After back-to-back 3-7 seasons, the Dragons might be ready to make a move in a tough East Texas district thanks to the return of every starter on the defensive side and nine offensive starters. WR Lockett (38-550 yards, 4 TDs) has the size and athletic ability to win most 50/50 balls, and Whitaker (409 yards rushing; 303 yards receiving, 4 total TDs) is a speedster who does major damage when he gets his touches. Castillo had 26 pancake blocks a year ago and returns to lead up front. The defense could be special with the return of LBs Sherrard (83 tackles), Rushing (79 tackles) and Horton (57 tackles, 6 TFL), and DL Thomas (40 tackles) is a load to deal with up front.

TEXAS HIGH TIGERS

Coach: Gerry Stanford. Lettermen R/L: 33/29. Starters returning: 6/6. 2024: 12-1 region semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/WR Tradarian Ball (5-11, 180, 4.4), DL Duncan McGhee (6-5, 255), OL Damien Chisum (6-4, 270), ATH Kameron Wrightner (5-11, 160), DB Roman Wyatt (5-10, 150), OL Donquavious Ford (6-6, 260). Top juniors: DL Aaron Kelley (6-2, 220), DB/WR Jerard Hopkins (5-10, 150).

Other prospects: WR Shavante Montgomery, LB eshayland Cooper, OL Garrett Johnson, DB Markus Hall, RB Ahmad Moore, LB Blake Banks, TE Sanders Wiggins, LB Caden Criner.

2025 notes: Texas High has done nothing but win under Stanford (71-24 in eight seasons), and if a replacement for a three-year starter at QB emerges, expect another deep playoff run by the Tigers. Ball (777 yards, 14 TDs rushing; 44-1,017 yards, 11 TDs receiving) has more than 40 total offers, and Wrightner (50-882 yards, 9 TDs receiving) will take his talents under center this year. They'll operate behind Ford and Chisum, who have both started every game the last two seasons – giving up one sack apiece during that time. Wyatt (28 tackles, 2 INTs), Kelley (31 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks), Cooper (79 tackles, 6 TFL) and Hall (35 tackles, 4 INTs) should make opposing offenses miserable.

WHITEHOUSE WILDCATS

Coach: Kyle Westerberg. Lettermen R/L: 22/30. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Kadavion Pickens, OL Caleb Toombs, OL Xavier Dudley, ATH JoJo Adams, RB Za'Majeigh Mosley. Top juniors: DL Jeremiah McClenton, QB Austin Holmes. Top sophomore: RB Ja'Kayden Robbins.

Other prospects: DB Devin Williams, DB Carmello Perkins, DL Caleb Russell, DB Jamarion Thurman, DL Marcus Franklin, OL Fallou Ndiaye, OL Price Bryan, LB Jayden Bell.

2025 notes: A late surge by the Wildcats, who won three of four to close out the regular season, earned Whitehouse a playoff berth and some valuable postseason experience. Swiss Army Knife Adams (857 yards, 6 TDs passing; 434 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 2 receiving TDs) and RB Mosley (670 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 5-50 yards receiving) – along with Toombs and Dudley up front – are solid pieces to build around on an offense that scored more than 300 points a year ago. The Wildcats struggled at times on defense, but Pickens (102 tackles, 14 TFL, 2 INTs) is back to head things up on that side of the ball after a monster sophomore year, and help should also arrive from a 7-3 JV team.



Joe
JOHNSON
RB/LB
Lockhart



Jaxon
SCHAD
QB
Pflugerville
Weiss



Hudson
WOODS
DL
Smithson Valley



Ayo
AFOLABI
TE
Fort Bend
Kempner

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 8-5A DII Preview

DAYTON BRONCOS

Coach: Jerry Prieto. Lettermen R/L: 17/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Jerry Prieto Jr. (6-0, 175), ATH Denim Foster (5-10, 175), SS Rakin Akmal (5-11, 195), LB Merkle Judge (5-8, 175), OL Tyler Chavez (6-3, 295), WR Dalen Tobar (5-9, 170). Top juniors: DL Yashir Villa (5-11, 215), DL Aiden Carrizales (6-3, 205). Top sophomore: OL/DL Cooper Burkes (6-2, 270).

Other prospects: LB Colton Havard, OL/DL Jack Riley, WR Jesse Price, DB Dreyquan Bradford, WR/DB Nathan Finn, OL Aiden Pierce, LB Grayson Weeks, WR Bradley Mitchell.

2025 notes: The Broncos will look to jump into the playoff discussion in 2025 after battling injuries in Prieto's first season at the helm. The injury bug hit the offense hard, but the return of QB Prieto Jr. (584 yards, 4 TDs passing; 128 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and ATH Foster (255 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 63 yards, 1 TD receiving) will be big after both had their seasons cut short a year ago. OL Chavez and two-way sophomore lineman Burkes will give Dayton a good base up front. SS Akmal (125 tackles, 2 sacks) and LB Judge (148 tackles, 22 TFL, 8 sacks, 2 INTs) are both back to lead the defense after stellar first-team all-district campaigns a year ago. Coach Prieto says health is key for his team, as the Broncos don't have much depth.

HUNTSVILLE HORNETS

Coach: Todd Moebes. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Traeshawn Brown (5-9, 190, 4.5), QB Zarien Adolphe (6-0, 190, 4.6), OL Tre Williams (6-4, 290), TE/DE Jerious Singletary (6-3, 225, 4.8), DB Brent Carroll (5-9, 175, 4.6), DB Trea Scott (5-10, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Isaiah Lewis, DL Fred Oladele, LB Sam Cleveland, WR Marcus Lewis.

2025 notes: New head coach Todd Moebes arrives from Lockhart and inherits a program with the arrow pointed up, as Huntsville hopes to ascend to regional contender status. There's plenty of offensive firepower returning with RB Brown (1,340 yards, 14 TDs rushing) leading the ground game and is among the state's most underrated backs. QB Adolphe (364 yards, 2 TDs passing; 828 yards, 12 TDs rushing) was pressed into duty late in the year as a freshman and showed immense promise. If he develops as a passer, the sky's the limit. TE/DE Singletary is another FBS prospect who will see time on both sides. The secondary should be outstanding with the return of DBs Carroll (43 tackles, 3 INTs) and Scott (26 tackles, 5 INTs).

LAKE CREEK LIONS

Coach: Pat Kennedy. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 6-4/4-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Hunter McKinney (6-5, 285), OL Gavin Fowles (5-10, 260), WR Chance Miller (5-10, 170, 4.6), QB/SS Zach Colwell (6-0, 180, 4.8), TE Dakota Clarke (6-3, 220, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Lions missed out on the playoffs in tough luck fashion a year ago, as they fell on the wrong end of a three-way tie for third place. The good news is 13 starters return. The bad news is the Lions graduated a record setting running back and a quarterback who signed with Texas A&M. The offense has a foundation to build around with two outstanding players returning in the trenches in OLs McKinney and Fowles. Kennedy says McKinney is "a next level lineman." Junior WR Miller is back and will be the top returning receiver, and TE Clarke returns with his great hands and blocking at the point of attack. Twenty-three lettermen are back, but young guys from a 6-4 JV squad will need to step up if LCHS wants to return to the playoffs.

MONTGOMERY BEARS

Coach: Grant Cooper. Lettermen R/L: 27/34. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jack Merryman (6-3, 210, 4.6), ATH DQ Swapsy (5-9, 175, 4.7), LB Chase Abrantes (5-11, 200, 4.8), K Parker Crenshaw (5-10, 190, 4.6), OL Jaxon Young-Davis (6-1, 275), CB Jordan Cotton (6-2, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: RB Keldrid Ben (5-10, 230, 4.7), WR Luke Piro (5-11, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: DT Jayace Lemm (5-10, 230, 4.8).

Other prospects: P Waylon Peters, ATH Isaiah Mendoza, DE Nolan Carpenter, S JaMarcus Nickerson, TE Mark Custer, TE David Troyer, DT Braxden Havard, TE Beckham Whiteside.

2025 notes: The Bears were in district title contention a year ago and if a young defense that returns just three starters matures, don't be surprised to see MHS back in the mix. QB Merryman (772 yards, 9 TDs passing; 4 TDs rushing) has gotten extensive experience the past two seasons and is poised for a breakout season. ATH Swapsy will play both RB and WR and accounted for seven touchdowns in 2024, and junior RB Ben (471 yards, 7 TDs rushing) will be a force, as well. LB Abrantes (96 tackles, 5 TFL, 2 sacks) has a big motor and will lead the defense, while CB Cotton is back to lead the secondary. K Crenshaw is a real weapon, as he's great for field position and has field goal range of well over 50 yards.

NEDERLAND BULLDOGS

Coach: Scott Rich. Lettermen R/L: 16/33. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Slade Sheppard (5-11, 170, 4.5), ATH Jaedon Ned (5-8, 180, 4.5), RB Tait Stoker (6-0, 200, 4.8), DL Levi Wright (6-3, 230), K Lance Resch (5-7, 160). Top juniors: LB Colt Sheppard (6-0, 190, 4.8), WR Leo Contreras (5-9, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: DE Maximos Pomonis (6-2, 210, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Daxton Hebert, OL Aaron Mojica, LB Andreas Taylor, DL Tyler Tolbert, RB Landon Mitchell, ATH Hunter Barron, DL Braden Smith, RB Landen Alpough.

2025 notes: The margins are slim in 8-5A Division II as the Bulldogs were a play away from a district title in Week 11. Instead, they ended up the four-seed and fell in the bi-district round. Overall, Year 1 under Scott Rich was a success, but 2025 will see plenty of new faces after 33 seniors graduated. ATHs Sheppard (41 tackles, 2 INTs) and Ned (77 tackles, 2 INT) are back and could see time at multiple spots on offense this year after spending most of 2024 on defense. DL Wright (33 tackles, 9 TFL, 6 sacks) had a strong sophomore season and returns to lead the defensive line. Look for several sophomores from a 10-0 freshman team to make an impact in 2025.

PORT NECHES-GROVES INDIANS

Coach: Jeff Joseph. Lettermen R/L: 28/41. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Aaron Wolford (6-4, 295), QB Connor Bailey (6-1, 170, 4.8), LB Jaxin Winfrey (6-0, 200, 4.7), RB Tyson Henry (5-10, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: FS Ryder McLeod (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL Ace Reeves (6-3, 265, 4.9). Top sophomore: ATH Jude Gohlke (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Braison Loftin, DL Kash Barnwell, TE/DE Kooper Benoit, FS Dane Stewart, WR/DB Seth Brisboe, OL Rafa Black.

2025 notes: After winning a state title, PNG followed that up with a regional final run before falling to South Oak Cliff. The core of that title team is now gone as 41 seniors graduated, but Joseph's squad still has plenty of pieces, led by QB Bailey (1,479 yards, 22 TDs passing; 9 TDs rushing) who enters his third season as a starter. RB Henry (1,654 yards, 13 TDs rushing) had a big sophomore season

District 8-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Traeshawn Brown, Huntsville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jaxin Winfrey, Port Neches-Groves

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Huntsville (1,835)
2. Port Neches-Groves (1,701)
3. Montgomery (1,565)
4. Nederland (1,484.5)
5. Montgomery Lake Creek (1,678)
6. Dayton (1,659)
7. New Caney West Fork (1,672)
8. Splendora (1,491.5)

and will operate behind a big offensive line anchored by Houston commit OL Wolford. LB Winfrey (87 tackles, 15 TFL, 3 sacks) will be the leader of the Indians defense. He covers a lot of ground and can go sideline-to-sideline. FS McLeod (55 tackles) had a strong sophomore debut and will lead the secondary. Expectations are always high at PNG; this team has the look and feel of a contender.

SPLENDORA WILDCATS

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 17/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/0-7 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Isaac Shumate (6-2, 220, 4.5), WR/DB TJ Burch (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/S Kentrell Bowman (6-2, 180, 4.5), WR/S DeMerion Anderson (5-9, 170, 4.5), QB Bryden Hinton (5-9, 160, 4.6), DT Calvin Limbrick (5-10, 280). Top juniors: WR/S KiJuan Redmond (5-9, 160, 4.5), DT Aiden Hernandez (5-10, 280). Top sophomore: OL PJ Lewis (6-3, 270).

Other prospects: RB Wyatt Sepanio, DB Ty Whaley, RB Caison Young, LB Barry Druilhet, WR/LB Kairee Williams.

2025 notes: The Wildcats will be on their third head coach in three seasons; whoever takes over will inherit 13 returning starters and a promising JV crop. WR/DB Burch (42-826, 10 TDs receiving) is a big play waiting to happen with elite top speed, while WR/S Bowman (24-337, 4 TDs receiving) is capable of making plays if teams over-commit to Burch. QB Hinton (1,678 yards, 13 TDs passing) played in seven games as a junior and should take a step forward in 2025. RB/LB Shumate (78 tackles) is the leader of the defense along with WR/S Anderson (29 tackles, 1 INT). The big question is in the trenches, where Splendora will need to improve if it wants to move into playoff contention.

WEST FORK GATORS

Coach: Dougald McDougald. Lettermen R/L: 41/0. Starters returning O/D: 11/11. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: RB/FS Smith Rollins (5-8, 155, 4.5), OL Brycen Cole (6-3, 290), WR/CB Courtney Simmons (5-9, 160, 4.6), RB/LB Toby White (6-0, 190, 4.6), CB DeJuan Kizzie (6-3, 175, 4.5), DL Adrian Geliga (6-0, 210, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB/SS Mason Evans-Pickens (5-8, 150, 4.6).

2025 notes: As expected, West Fork went through some growing pains in their first varsity season, but there were some positive signs as the Gators picked up a district win and played competitively in a few other games. With the entire team returning, expect improvement; with a few breaks, WFHS could emerge as a playoff contender. RB Rollins (553 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 69 tackles) is expected to be the featured back, operating behind an OL anchored by Cole, an all-district transfer from New Caney. RB/LB White (82 tackles, 3 sacks) and CB Kizzie (21 tackles, 2 INTs) both earned all-district honors a year ago and will be the key contributors for the defense. McDougald says a lack of size across the board is still a concern going into fall camp.

DC
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TEXAS FOOTBALL

High School
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 9-5A DII Preview

IOWA COLONY PIONEERS

Coach: Ray Garza. Lettermen R/L: 31/30. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Jayden Warren (6-2, 200, 4.5), QB Carson White (6-2, 200, 4.5), OL Aeden Elizando (6-1, 290), DT Daniel Swiney (5-11, 260), DB Jeremy Garner (5-11, 150, 4.4), RB Aaron Tenner (5-8, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Noah Smith (6-4, 310), ATH Denim Barnes (5-10, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: FS Kalen Simmons (6-1, 185, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Ian Hill, FS Kahni Watts, LB Kenry Kalu, DB Darren Brown, OL Chukwuemeka Tasie, DE Cory Anthony, DE Randy Naylor, LB DuQuay Buckhanon.

2025 notes: Iowa Colony's only two losses of 2024 came at the hands of eventual state champion and district rival Randle, so with a dozen starters back the Pioneers are in the discussion of state title contenders. QB White (1,871 yards, 30 TDs passing; 832 yards, 18 TDs rushing) is just a junior but is entering his third season as a starter. WR Warren (26-613, 14 TDs receiving) is one of the state's top WR prospects and is plenty dangerous in the return game. OL Elizando leads a young offensive line as a four-year starter for the Pioneers. DB Garner (44 tackles, 5 INTs) leads the secondary, while DT Swiney (22 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 sacks) is a four-year letterman who is the anchor of the defensive line.

LAMAR CONSOLIDATED MUSTANGS

Coach: Chris Lane. Lettermen R/L: 16/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: WR Kameron Dialet (5-8, 145, 4.5), DL Jayson Martinez (5-10, 205, 4.9), DE Trevor Onuegbu (5-11, 210, 4.7), RB Larry Clinton (5-9, 175, 4.5), OL Drake Hilder (6-3, 280), WR Isaiah Cobbin (5-7, 150, 4.6). Top junior: DL Elijah Williams (6-1, 230). Top sophomore: ATH Ethan Riggins (5-7, 145, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Xavier Chu, OL Eric Avila, DB Joseph Mahoney, DB Donte Gaines.

2025 notes: New head coach Lane, formerly Alief Hastings' OC, takes over after Kiah Johnson departed to take over at Tomas High, which opens in August in LCISD. The Mustangs will have some dynamic weapons as speedy WR Dialet returns along with sophomore RB Clinton (620 yards, 3 TDs rushing). OL Hilder will lead a young group up front. The defensive strength will be along the front where LCHS welcomes back DL Martinez and DE Onuegbu; both are undersized but very quick. The biggest questions for the new coaching staff will be developing the QB position and overall depth at all positions.

LEE GANDERS

Coach: Tim Finn. Lettermen R/L: 19/23. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-4/3-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/CB Elijah Brown (5-11, 175, 4.5), DE Rylen Barrientos (6-0, 220, 4.9), OL Luis Gonzalez (6-3, 265), WR Tyler Nowell (5-9, 160, 4.6), DE Spencer Singh (6-1, 195, 4.6), RB/DB Isiah Pena (5-8, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Aedan Squires (6-0, 305), WR/DB Shunderion Davis (5-10, 165, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Ganders just missed out on the playoffs a year ago and Finn is hoping some key pieces returning can put Baytown Lee back into the postseason. WR/CB Brown (42-798, 9 TDs receiving; 5 INTs) is a force on both sides of the ball and led 9-5A Division I in interceptions and interceptions a year ago. WR Nowell (31-195, 1 TD receiving) is a solid second option, while getting RB/DB Pena back from injury should be a boost. DE Barrientos (65 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 INT) is a force rushing the passer off the edge and will be counted on heavily to lead a young defensive line along with DE Singh (36 tackles, 2 sacks). The biggest concerns will be inexperience at QB and depth in the defensive front.

MARSHALL BUFFALOS

Coach: James Williams. Lettermen R/L: 30/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 10-3 region semifinalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Isaiah Williams (6-2, 190, 4.5), QB Kaeden Johnson (6-6, 225, 4.6), WR Dazhion Taylor (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR Jordan Simmons (5-9, 165, 4.4), OL Blake Chacir (6-3, 305), RB Peyton Long (5-9, 180, 4.5). Top juniors: LB Ashton Lofton (6-0, 185, 4.6), OL Landon Jones (6-4, 265, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Kevin Carmouche (6-1, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Dylan Waters, DB Myles Ratcliff, LB Detric Brown, K/P Tamir Williams, LB Amari Harris, DT Nate Murguia, OL Ja'Vein Mitchell, OL Chaz Oliver.

2025 notes: After a first-round loss in 2023, Marshall bounced back nicely, winning 10 games a year ago and advancing to the regional semifinals. Williams believes his team is once again primed to contend in one of the state's toughest 5A Division II district races. QB Johnson (2,109 yards, 25 TDs passing; 571 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is a big and physical presence in the pocket with a big arm. RB Long (1,022 yards, 12 TDs rushing) is a three-year starter, and as always the Buffs have a bevy of speedy and talented wideouts. DB Williams is a four-star prospect who leads the defense along with junior LB Lofton (71 tackles, 9 TFLs, 4 sacks, 3 INTs). Williams says the biggest question mark will be youth on the Buffalos defensive line.

RANDLE LIONS

Coach: Brian Randle. Lettermen R/L: 25/33. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 16-0 state champion/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Landen Williams-Callis (5-9, 190, 4.4), LB Noriel Dominguez (6-3, 235, 4.7), WR Dacorian Rubin (5-9, 185, 4.4), LB Ryan Mallory (6-0, 190, 4.5), QB Tyler Skrabanek (6-4, 215, 4.8), TE Mason Mixon (6-4, 235, 4.7). Top juniors: DB Patrick Oliver (6-0, 160, 4.5), DL Cameron Hypolite (5-9, 225). Top sophomore: QB Brady Bratcher (5-9, 160).

Other prospects: WR Kamar Chavez-Brown, DE Cary Spires, OL Logan Reed, OL Nicholas Ortiz, WR Cedrick McClintock, DE Jael Benard, WR Ashton Johnson.

2025 notes: The Lions were the statewide story of 2024 with their title run in just Year 3 of the program. With a talented cast back, a repeat isn't out of the question. RB Williams-Callis (2,108 yards, 45 TDs rushing; 20-290, 2 TDs receiving) is among the top players in the country, regardless of position, in the Class of 2027. He's joined by QB Skrabanek (2,115 yards, 27 TDs passing) and WR Rubin (37-688, 7 TDs receiving) to give Randle plenty of offensive firepower. Graduation hit the defense hard, but LB Mallory (80 tackles, 25 TFL, 3 sacks) and junior DL Hypolite (25 tackles, 3 sacks) are back. LB Dominguez will be a big addition after sitting out 2024. He's a high level FBS recruit and a difference maker for the Lions.

SANTA FE INDIANS

Coach: Blake Ryder. Lettermen R/L: 17/13. Starters returning O/D: 5/9. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jackson Smith (6-0, 170, 4.5), TE/DE Johnathan Baccinelli (6-1, 200, 4.6), TE/DE Paul Rivera (6-1, 200, 4.6), QB Mason Norman (5-10, 200, 4.8), RB/DB Blake Mancuso (5-8, 215, 4.6), RB/DB Jaidyn Bailey (5-10, 200, 4.7). Top junior: WR/DB Zane Brewer (5-9, 170, 4.6). Top sophomore: TE/DE Teegan Woitena (6-4, 205, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Rowdy Loftin, RB/ LB Noah Nelson, OL/DL Gerardo Rodriguez, OL/DL Christian Summers, RB/DB Liam Blackmon, WR/DB Tyler Atkins.

2025 notes: Santa Fe will look to pull itself into playoff contention in one of the state's toughest districts, and if the Indians get it done, their defense - with nine starters back - will have to lead the way. WR/DB Smith (72 tackles, 5 INTs) spent most of last

District 9-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Landen Williams-Callis, Richmond Randle

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Isaiah Williams, Fort Bend Marshall

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Richmond Randle (1,805)
2. Alvin Iowa Colony (1,760.92)
3. Fort Bend Marshall (1,635.5)
4. Texas City (1,764.5)

5. Santa Fe (1,376)
6. Baytown Lee (1,819)
7. Rosenberg Terry (1,556)
8. Lamar Consolidated (1,773)

year on defense, but will play on both sides of the ball. TE/DE Baccinelli (83 tackles, 6 sacks) is an athletic edge rusher and will lead the defensive line along with TE/DE Rivera (77 tackles, 5 sacks). RB/DB Bailey topped 100 tackles and is a prototypical linebacker in the 4-2-5 defense. QB Norman is back to pilot the offensive attack and RB/DB Mancuso tallied 10 rushing touchdowns last year.

TERRY RANGERS

Coach: Darnell Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 30/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Jamarion Blaine (5-9, 170, 4.6), WR Mathew Eben (5-9, 175, 4.5), WR Robert Shaw (5-8, 165, 4.8), LB Jayden Robertson (5-11, 185, 4.8), DB Trey Reyes (6-0, 180, 4.6), OL Matrell Carter (5-10, 215, 4.9). Top juniors: CB Jonathan Lomnick (5-9, 160, 4.6), WR Brandon Williams (6-0, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: DT Joseph Hernandez (6-3, 335).

2025 notes: The Rangers are hoping for a more competitive season in their brutally tough district that features the defending 5A Division II state champion. Jackson does welcome back 14 starters and 30 total lettermen, so Terry will field a more competitive squad. There is some veteran experience at the skill spots returning, led by RB Blaine (311 yards, 2 TDs rushing) and WRs Eben (257 yards, 1 TD receiving) and Shaw (248 yards, 1 TD receiving). LB Robertson (87 tackles, 8 TFL, 1 sack) is the unquestioned leader of the 4-2-5 defense, while junior CB Lomnick (34 tackles, 3 INTs) is back after a strong sophomore campaign. Jackson says depth is a concern along with inexperience at the QB spot.

TEXAS CITY STINGAREES

Coach: Shone Evans. Lettermen R/L: 20/26. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Jayden Johnson (6-3, 170, 4.5), RB/DB Justin Stephens (6-2, 215, 4.6), DE Trey Lampkin (6-3, 225, 4.7), OL Dustin Taylor (5-10, 250). Top juniors: DB/P Patrick Evans (6-1, 180, 4.6), TE/LB Brandon Fountain (5-11, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Cardae King (6-1, 280).

Other prospects: OL Travis Pevoto, DL Bryce Davis, QB Clyde Votaw.

2025 notes: Texas City was able to nab the final playoff spot in a brutal district that featured three of the four semifinalist squads in Region III. However, the 'Stings will need to grow up in a hurry to challenge the top three. WR Johnson (38-379, 4 TDs receiving) is a force on the outside, and Evans says he is a "true workaholic." The staff is excited about the potential of sophomore OL King and returning QB Votaw. The defense is led by a pair of juniors in RB/DB Stephens (43 tackles, 3 INTs; 277 yards, 2 TDs rushing) and DE Lampkin (42 tackles, 5 sacks). Evans says youth and inexperience along the offensive line are his biggest concerns heading into 2025.

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 10-5A DII Preview

BELTON TIGERS

Coach: Brett Sniffin. Lettermen R/L: 21/25. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-9 5A DII bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Will Shepard (6-1, 170, 4.6), WR Gavin Ross (5-10, 172, 4.7), OL Ben Gutierrez (6-3, 285, 5.4), CB Graham Chambley (6-0, 162, 4.6), DB Azian Wilkinson (5-10, 179, 4.6), DB Jahari James (6-1, 180, 4.7), H Cason Morton (6-2, 185, 4.7), OL Beckett Butler, RB Gino Zecca, LB Jacob Lewis, DE Brock Baker.

2025 notes: Belton was forced to grow up in 2024, and a more experienced squad should be better after playing 17 sophomores due to injuries. Those underclassmen gained valuable reps and now step into bigger roles, giving the Tigers optimism for a stronger campaign. QB Shepard (1,550 yards, 7 TDs) leads an offense featuring WR Ross (55-759, 1 TD) and OL Gutierrez, while the secondary is a strength with DBs Wilkinson (51 tackles, 2 INT) and James (20 tackles). The team's biggest asset is its unselfish, team-first mentality, though questions remain on the D-line and at linebacker. With last year's growing pains behind them, the Tigers are ready to take a step forward.

BRENHAM CUBS

Coach: Danny Youngs. Lettermen R/L: 30/13. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 11-2 5A DII regional semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Jakoby Dixon (5-10, 210, 4.5), WR Chris Guidry (6-1, 180, 4.6), LB Caleb Espinoza (5-11, 225, 4.9), DB Ledrick Walker Jr. (5-10, 175, 4.6), DL Job Rodriguez (6-1, 255, 5.0), DB Quincy Adams (6-1, 180, 4.6), DB CJ Glover (5-9, 175, 4.6), WR Cartelle Brown, DL Mason Seeber, OL Andre Mojica, LB Kristian Prosper.

2025 notes: Brenham rolls into 2025 with high expectations, returning nearly 80% of its starters from last year's regional semifinal squad. Experience is the team's biggest strength, with key playmakers such as RB Dixon (2,248 yards, 32 TDs rushing), WR Guidry (41-848, 11 TDs receiving) and LB Espinoza (156 tackles, 4 sacks). The secondary, led by DB Walker Jr. (47 tackles, 2 INT) and junior Adams (33 tackles, 1 INT), should be a defensive anchor. However, size remains a concern, especially in the trenches. District 10-5A is expected to stay competitive, but Brenham aims to defend its title and make a deeper playoff run. With talent and leadership in place, the Cubs believe they can take the next step. Can they finally break through past the third round?

ELLISON EAGLES

Coach: Danny Servance. Lettermen R/L: 19/39. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 5-6 5A DII bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Prince Hall (6-2, 175, 4.6), LB/RB Ja'Kiree Teal (5-11, 245, 4.6), DB Diondre Bell (6-3, 180, 4.6), RB LaBoris Ceagh (5-8, 145, 4.4), DL Ja'Karius Fletcher (6-2, 230, 4.8), WR Juan Ramirez (5-8, 145, 4.5), QB Marlyn Smith (6-1, 220, 4.6), DB/WR/RB Tyler Reed, OL Kevin Crockett Graham, DB Miles Holland, LB Juan Cavello, WR Kai'Andre Sayles.

2025 notes: Ellison broke through in 2024, reaching the playoffs for the first time since 2017, but maintaining that momentum will be tough. The Eagles return key playmakers, including WR/DB Hall (65-776, 10 TDs receiving), a dynamic option out wide, and LB/RB Teal (103 yards, 1 TD rushing), a physical two-way force. However, with just nine starters back, inexperience could be a major hurdle. Speed and athleticism could keep Ellison competitive, but the Eagles will need their young players to develop quickly to avoid a step back. The district won't offer any easy games, making their path to the playoffs difficult. If the talent matures fast enough, Ellison could surprise.

RUDDER RANGERS

Coach: Eric Ezar. Lettermen R/L: 19/25. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-3/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB AJ Morrison (5-9, 160, 4.5), LB/RB Brandon Brown (6-0, 190, 4.3), DL Shon Godoy (5-10, 300, 5.3), DL/TE Javion Richardson (6-3, 255, 4.9), LB/FB Gibson Amarrian (5-10, 230, 4.7), DB Jordan Oliva (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR Aiden Gray (5-10,

District 10-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jakoby Dixon, Brenham

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Joaquin Martinez, Waco University

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Brenham (1,565.5)
2. Belton (1,837)
3. Waco University (1,802)
4. Killeen Ellison (1,799)
5. Bryan Rudder (1,718)
6. Waco (1,866)

175, 4.4), OL Juan Gutierrez, WR/DB Malik Wilson, LB Kayden Shallow, OL JD Ballard.

2025 notes: Bryan Rudder's 2024 season ended in disappointment after a 6-0 start turned into a late collapse, leaving the Rangers just outside the playoff picture. With only four starters returning on each side of the ball, they'll rely on defensive size to make up for inexperience, particularly in the secondary. RB Morrison (634 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is the team's explosive playmaker, while DL Godoy (25 tackles, 3 sacks) anchors the defensive front. The Rangers will also have a QB competition this spring to determine their next leader under center. While youth poses challenges, Bryan Rudder has the talent to compete if new starters step up.

UNIVERSITY TROJANS

Coach: Charles Foster. Lettermen R/L: 30/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR London Smith (6-2, 190, 4.5), DB Devontrae Kirkland (6-1, 180, 4.4), TE Justin Neal (6-4, 215, 4.8), LB Joaquin Martinez (5-11, 205, 4.5), DB Jeremiah Green (5-10, 170, 4.6), WR Ke'Andre Brooks (5-10, 170, 4.5), QB Savoy Nichols (6-5, 195, 4.6), RB LaQuan Hughes (5-11, 180, 4.6), DL Demitri Johnson (6-1, 220, 4.8), WR Jimare Thomas, DB Michael Davis, DB Joseph Foster, OL Armando Rodriguez.

2025 notes: Waco University has made the playoffs three straight years, and with 14 returning starters, the Trojans believe 2025 could be their biggest leap yet. WR Smith (45-626 yards, 5 TDs receiving), a Baylor commit, returns after missing part of last season, while QB Nichols (2,169 yards, 16 TDs passing) has a dynamic arsenal, including WR Brooks (42-856, 8 TDs receiving) and TE Neal (10-124 receiving). Defensively, LB Martinez (120 tackles, 11 TFL, 4 sacks) and DB Kirkland (83 tackles) lead a veteran group that also includes ballhawk DB Green (7 INTs). With rising talent and proven leaders, Waco University has the tools to contend with Brenham for the District 10-5A crown.

WACO LIONS

Coach: Esrom Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 12/25. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: LB Gude Jalen (6-1, 205, 4.7), LB Chanse Rhynes (6-2, 215, 4.6), DB/WR ZayDrian Johnson (5-10, 160, 4.6), DB/QB Eric Taylor (5-11, 185, 4.6), WR Chayse Rhynes (5-11, 160, 4.5), DL Jamion Dugas (6-0, 235, 4.8), RB/DB Andre Kelley (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Jeremiah Lofton (6-3, 180, 4.6), LB/RB Tyler Freeman (5-11, 180, 4.7), OL Patrick Jones, DL/OL De'Myrdion Elliot, OL Jerome Walker, LB Hector Topete.

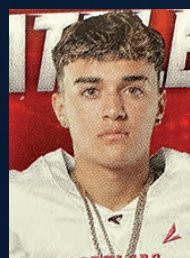
2025 notes: Waco enters a new era under head coach Esrom Martinez, aiming to restore pride to a program with deep football roots. Graduation thinned an already young roster, particularly up front, but there's optimism thanks to a fast, physical defense led by LB Jalen (125 tackles, 2 sacks) and LB Rhynes (91 tackles, 5 TFL). Playmakers such as DB/WR Johnson (37 tackles; 10-103 yards receiving) and QB/DB Taylor (34 tackles) bring potential versatility, while super-speedy junior RB Kelley could emerge offensively. The O-line lacks experience, so growth there will be key. Can Waco take its first step back toward relevance and end years of frustration?



James ROSS
RB
SA Southwest Legacy



Dante RODRIGUEZ
LB
McAllen Rowe



Deandre RODRIGUEZ
QB
Rio Grande City



Jayden BOWSER
WR
El Paso Burges



Davion ARNETTE
QB/LB
El Paso Jefferson



Dycin DAVIS
DL
Abilene Cooper



Julius LAINE
RB
Abilene Wylie



Darien LEWIS
ATH
Amarillo Palo Duro

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 5A
HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 11-5A DII Preview

BASTROP BEARS

Coach: Jake Griedl. Lettermen R/L: 26/26. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Tiki Hola (6-3, 305, 5.0), QB Weston Nielsen (6-2, 183, 4.7), WR/TE Brent Carter (6-3, 200, 4.6), OL Isaiah Walker Lopez (6-2, 288, 5.0), DL Val Regalado (6-1, 266, 4.9), WR Diego Rangel (6-2, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: DB Cale Findlay (6-1, 185, 4.5), DL/LB Austin Moilan (6-2, 211, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Zac Werchan (6-3, 240, 5.0).

Other prospects: RB Miles Johnson, WR Zac Wilkinson, DL Kenyon Moore.

2025 notes: Expectations are sky high as the Bears come off their best season, including their first playoff win in 15 years. In his fourth season at the helm, coach Griedl loves the way his team has approached the offseason. After averaging 43 points per game last year, the 2025 Bears may lean on a more experienced defense early while a promising group of receivers develops around WR/TE Carter (409 yards, 7 TDs receiving) for QB Nielsen (3,100 yards, 37 TDs passing as a sophomore). The returning duo of OLs Walker Lopez and Werchan provide plenty of protection up front. DL Hola (102 tackles) dominates the trenches paired with DL Moore (42 tackles), and DLs Regalado (85 tackles) and Moilan (58 tackles, 9 sacks) are problems on the edge.

CONNALLY COUGARS

Coach: Charles Burton. Lettermen R/L: 16/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Gavin Soto (6-0, 280), RB Jonah Garcia (5-8, 170, 4.5), QB Jase Watkins (6-1, 170, 4.5), DL/TE Didier Thorpe (6-2, 230). Top juniors: OL Camron Jones (5-10, 250), DL Bryson Reed (5-11, 205). Top sophomore: WR Rahsaan Franklin-Thompson (6-0, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Joshua Whitehead, DL Terrence Collins Jr., DB/WR Judah Walker, DB Ja'Marvion Miller.

2025 notes: After just missing out on the 2024 playoffs, the Cougars look to take a step forward using a tried-and-true formula: controlling the line of scrimmage. Coach Burton likes the way both lines shape up, especially on the defensive side. DL Soto (60 tackles, 5 sacks), DL/TE Thorpe, DL Collins Jr. and DL Reed (50 tackles, 3 sacks) will need to win at the point of attack while a young secondary that features DBs Walker and Miller rounds into form. Behind OL Jones, the offense should be more explosive. New QB Watkins has opened a lot of eyes. He can lean on RB Garcia (1,076 yards, 23 TDs rushing) and WRs Franklin-Thompson (176 yards receiving) and Whitehead (240 yards, 3 TDs rushing), a converted running back.

CROCKETT COUGARS

Coach: Darrick Norton. Lettermen R/L: 29/7. Starters returning O/D: 11/11. 2024: 0-10/0-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Jake Napolillo (5-10, 175, 4.8), RB John Paul Pesina (5-10, 195, 4.8), OL Daven Aguirre (5-10, 275, 5.2), OL Ricardo Sierra (6-3, 270, 5.2), LB Adrian Castro (5-10, 185, 4.9), RB Roger Charoais Jr. (6-2, 190, 4.8). Top juniors: DL Bobby Cabral (5-10, 185, 4.9), DB Darnell Osaigbovo (6-4, 190, 4.9). Top sophomore: DB Braiden Tillman (5-10, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: TE/DL Dayvean Brinkley, WR Trace Silvain, RB Zion Glenn, RB Yostin Barahona, OL Juan Noria, OL Mario Madrid Jr., DB Gibson Fullerton, LB Jeremiah Hernandez.

2025 notes: After back-to-back playoff seasons, including the school's first playoff win since 1997, the Cougars struggled in 2024. Norton believes the road back begins this season, though the journey may take time. A dedicated group of Cougars, led by RB Pesina (550 yards rushing, 3 TDs), WR Silvain (274 yards receiving) and QB Napolillo, will take the first steps. OLs Aguirre, Noria and Sierra are massive pieces up front who should open holes

for RBs Glenn and Barahona. TE/DL Brinkley (385 yards receiving, 3 TDs) also returns. LBs Castro and Hernandez must make plays around the ball in front of a secondary that welcomes back DBs Osaigbovo, Tillman and Fullerton. Up front, DL Cabral has the quickness to apply pressure coming off the edge.

ELGIN WILDCATS

Coach: Rich Lucero. Lettermen R/L: 22/23. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Matthew Clear (5-10, 205, 4.8), RB/WR Gary Jefferson (5-8, 170, 4.5), OL Emmanuel Fernandez (6-0, 265, 5.2), DL Michael Wilson (6-2, 245, 4.9), DL/LB Lewis Reese (6-2, 215, 4.7), QB/WR Dylan Owens (6-3, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Trey Flores (5-11, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Wyatt Cooper (5-9, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: TE Dontavious Robinson (6-0, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Sebastian Monroy, OL Austin Hernandez, DL Drake McCoy, WR/RB Michael Mejias, K/P Cristian Soto, DB Xavier Penson, RB Jeremiah Nicholson, OL/DL Kelly Gibson.

2025 notes: New seasons always bring a bit of uncertainty, and that's true for Elgin, who will be under new leadership with Lucero — the former OC — taking the big chair. This team should be solid in the trenches, and that's a great place to start reloading. OL Fernandez and DL Wilson (23 tackles) are primed to lead their respective units, and DL/LB Reese (53 tackles, 5 sacks) returns as a specialist off the edge. LB Clear (96 tackles, 5 sacks) can dominate from the middle of the defense. Offensively, returners Monroy, Hernandez and McCoy give the Wildcats one of the biggest lines around. That should bode well for RB/WR Jefferson (711 yards, 11 TDs rushing) and QB/WR Owens (1,565 yards passing; 516 yards rushing; 464 yards receiving; 29 total TDs).

LIBERTY HILL PANTHERS

Coach: David Seaborn. Lettermen R/L: 40/24. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Alister Vallejo (6-3, 290, 5.2), OL Jett Harrison (6-1, 240, 5.1), ATH Jack Pitchford (6-0, 190, 4.4), ATH DJ Seaborn (5-9, 150, 4.5), RB Bryce Muchaw (5-7, 185, 4.6), RB Dylan Belinga (5-8, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Justin Bordelon (6-4, 220, 4.7), LB Spencer Ballew (6-1, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: TE/DL John Garza (6-2, 190, 4.8).

Other prospects: DL Isaiah Cravens, LB Orrin Cole, OL Daniel Simpson, LB Kaden Cockburn, LB Grey Hargrove, TE/DL Ethan McMillan, DB Sebastian Evans, LB Webb McWilliams.

2025 notes: As Bon Jovi says, "Only the names will change." Few things are as consistent as the Panthers' rushing attack, which totaled 5,525 yards and 75 touchdowns last year. Will new coach Seaborn, promoted from DC, keep it rolling? With ATH Pitchford running the show, look for the likes of Muchaw (1,113 yards, 13 TDs rushing), Seaborn (750 yards rushing) and Belinga (700 yards, 10 TDs rushing) to make their way through opposing defenses behind an experienced front that welcomes back OLs Harrison, Simpson and McWilliams. Defensively, DL Vallejo (50 tackles, 9 sacks) leads a unit that wants to improve on the 30 points per game it allowed. DLs Bordelon (35 tackles), Cravens, Garza and McMillan will also make plays. LBs Ballew (60 tackles), Cole, Hargrove and Cockburn (89 tackles) are run stuffers. DB Evans leads a secondary that must rebuild itself.

MCCALLUM KNIGHTS

Coach: Tom Gammerdinger. Lettermen R/L: 22/24. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 4-6/2-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Luke Mathabala (6-1, 280, 5.5), DL Hugo Smith (6-0, 210, 4.6), OL Dylan Fissel (6-4, 260, 5.2), RB Tommy McIntyre (6-1, 205, 4.7), QB/DB Cooper Hensley (5-10, 175, 4.7), TE Alex Hopper (6-3,

District 11-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Jack Pitchford, Liberty Hill

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Tiki Hola, Bastrop

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Liberty Hill (1,891)
2. Bastrop (1,729)
3. Pflugerville (1,853)
4. Elgin (1,822)
5. Pflugerville Connally (1,817)
6. Austin McCallum (1,864.5)
7. Austin Navarro (1,773.5)
8. Austin Crockett (1,598.5)

220, 5.0). Top juniors: DL Tyson Thompson (5-11, 263, 5.2), LB V Overstreet (5-11, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: DB Silas Alexander (6-0, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB Jax Hicks, QB/DB Mason White.

2025 notes: How do the Knights rebuild after losing one of the most prolific quarterbacks in school history? By starting in the trenches, veteran coach Gammerdinger says. Offensively, the Knights will rely on the combination of OLs Mathabala and Fissel and TE Hopper to control the front, while the quarterback competition between Hensley and White plays itself out. RB/LB McIntyre enters his third year as a varsity starter and figures to be a key to the offense. The Knights must improve a defense that allowed 40 points per game, and DLs Smith and Thompson will form the first line of that unit. LB Overstreet and DBs Alexander and Hicks showed flashes last season and should emerge as consistent playmakers for a team eager to return to the playoffs in 2025.

NAVARRO VIKINGS

Coach: David Avila. Lettermen R/L: 6/8. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

2025 notes: In spite of some offensive struggles moving into a new district, the Vikings posted their best season since 2015, and Avila says 2025 could bring similar results. Navarro returns six starters on each side of the ball, and Avila says the players are establishing a culture and working together to reach goals that go beyond simple on-field wins and losses. The Vikings can continue to build around QB Henry Alvarez, RB Juan Hernandez Ponce, RB/LB Savion Farley and WR/DB Hsanii Blankenship.

PFLUGERVILLE PANTHERS

Coach: Charles Taylor. Lettermen R/L: 24/23. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Cole Taylor (6-4, 205, 4.6), TE Jaivion Martin (6-4, 245), DB Devin Banks (6-3, 190, 4.6), DB Jaylen Anderson (5-10, 140, 4.5), DB Kishan Ware (6-1, 194, 4.9), OL Tobar Noah (6-0, 222, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Jorden Thompson (5-10, 265, 5.8), DB/WR Breland Hill (6-1, 162, 4.7).

2025 notes: After checking some key boxes in 2024 -- winning record, playoff berth, first playoff win since 2012 (when they ended Lake Travis' run of state titles) -- how can the Panthers go further? Coach Taylor wants to build on last year's success. What better way to do it than to keep giving the ball to his son, who directed an attack that obliterated the school record for points in a season (562). QB Cole Taylor (3,379 yards, 43 TDs passing) is the man, though he's not a one-man show. TE Martin (804 yards, 11 TDs receiving) is a favorite target. OLs Noah and Thompson anchor the line. DBs Ware (67 tackles), Banks, Anderson and Hill lead a defense that must replace most of the front six.

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 12-5A DII Preview

BRACKENRIDGE EAGLES

Coach: Steve Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 14/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: DL/OL Viggo Muzquiz (5-7, 5.2), WR/DB Jared Jones Jr. (5-7, 4.9), WR/DB Anthony Ward (5-10, 4.9), RB/LB Tristan Trujillo (5-6, 4.9), QB/LB Sebastian Garza (5-7, 4.9), OL/DL Jose Valencia (5-10, 5.1).

2025 notes: Garcia, a first-year head coach, inherits a team that hasn't won a game the last two seasons and last made the playoffs in 2021. That hasn't discouraged Garcia, who previously served as an assistant at San Antonio Lanier. He is familiar with Brackenridge and its rich history. He believes his players will use their shortfalls as motivation coming into the season. The Eagles' biggest challenge is depth with many of their starters playing on both sides of the ball. Brackenridge is expected to have 35 on its varsity team, which is thin for a Class 5A program.

BURBANK BULLDOGS

Coach: Sammie Ricker. Lettermen R/L: 22/23. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Ramsey Chavarria (6-5, 270, 5.0), QB Roman Garcia (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Lance Trevino (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Jonathan Rosales (5-11, 215), DL Vaopuka Uanitolu-Olie (6-0, 275), DB Ambrose Leyva (5-8, 150, 5.0). Top juniors: WR James Gonzalez (5-8, 130, 4.8), DB Sebastian Ramos (5-6, 140, 5.0). Top sophomore: WR Kaleb Perez (5-8, 145, 4.9).

Other prospects: RB Edward Rodriguez, WR Leo Lozano, OL Owen Balagia, LB James Luna, OL Derek Torralba, RB, Drake Gallegos, DL Darin Gomez, WR Uly Morales.

2025 notes: Ricker takes over a season after the Bulldogs earned their first district championship since 1978. Although the Bulldogs graduated a lot of key players from that squad, Ricker believes a repeat performance is not out of the question. However, that depends on how the team's youth adjusts to the varsity level. The Bulldogs' strength is on the defensive line, led by Chavarria, who has received several college offers, and Uanitolu-Olie, an all-district pick. LB Trevino and DB Ramos earned first-team all-district honors. The biggest concern is quarterback and finding a replacement for four-year starter Keven Hernandez.

EDISON BEARS

Coach: David Gibbons. Lettermen R/L 24/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 3-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/QB Sergio Villarreal (6-4, 260, 5.1), RB/LB Daniel Vidal (5-7, 160, 4.9), LB/RB Joe De La Cruz (5-9, 180, 4.9), DB Alonzo Perez (5-9, 160, 4.8), WR Izzaiah Armstrong (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL Dayron Danian (5-10, 260). Top junior: LB Roland Ruelas (5-9, 175, 4.8). Top sophomore: QB/DB Jacob Gonzalez (5-8, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Vince Ibarra, RB/LB Gary Lopez, DL/OL Andrew Rocha (6-0, 205, 4.9), LB/RB Ezrah Acosta-Torres (5-10, 175, 4.8).

2025 notes: Coach Gibbons gets his first head-coaching job after serving as an assistant at San Antonio Sotomayor. He'll be in charge of the offense and inherits a group with plenty of potential on that side of the ball. QB Villarreal (645 yards, 5 TDs) and Vidal (154 yards, 1 TD) will carry deeper responsibility, along with RB Lopez (162 yards rushing). The Golden Bears expect improvement on both sides of the line. Gibbons wants the team to play with high energy, especially on defense with LB De La Cruz (54 tackles), DB Perez (24 tackles, 3 INTs with 2 TDs), DL Rocha (27 tackles, 7 TFL, 1 sack) and LB Acosta-Torres (28 tackles).

HIGHLANDS OWLS

Coach: Roger Landeros. Lettermen R/L: 21/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jeremiah McKane (5-9, 150, 4.6), DB Mylon Pope (5-6, 140, 4.8), WR/DB Devante Riley (5-9, 150, 4.8). Top juniors: RB Josiah Carrillo (5-8, 170, 4.8), OL Nelson Espinoza (6-3, 275, 5.8).

2025 notes: Coach Landeros believes his Owls are ready to compete for their first playoff spot in three seasons after last season's young team gained valuable snaps. He says that experience should make a difference this season. The Owls should be healthier, too. The return of WR/DB McKane (399 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will give the Owls a boost after he missed most of last season with injury. DB Pope (53 tackles, 2

District 12-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Ja'Zavien Lloyd, San Antonio Lanier

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Ramsey Chavarria, San Antonio Burbank

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. San Antonio Lanier (1,783)
2. San Antonio Burbank (1,412)
3. San Antonio Sam Houston (1,065)
4. San Antonio Jefferson (1,784.5)
5. San Antonio Edison (1,521)
6. San Antonio Highlands (1,804.5)
7. San Antonio Brackenridge (1,789.5)

sacks, 1 INTs) is a defensive playmaker. WR/DB Riley started 10 games at cornerback as a freshman.

JEFFERSON MUSTANGS

Coach: Randy Badillo. Lettermen R/L: 16/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB John Anthony Fernandez (5-7, 145, 4.6), OL Julian Calvario (6-2, 225, 5.5), LB Marco Godinez (5-7, 170, 4.9), LB Damian Ramirez (5-7, 170, 4.8), LB Andrew Arredondo (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: QB Marnez Davis (5-7, 145, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB Aaron Garcia (5-7, 150, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Mustangs will have to catch up quickly to Badillo, who was hired in April, three months after Edward Cardenas announced his retirement following nine seasons. Coach Badillo comes to Jefferson after previously serving as an assistant at South San Antonio and the now defunct South San Antonio West Campus program. The Mustangs return a good core from a team that snapped a three-season playoff drought in 2024.

LANIER VOKS

Coach: Sal Tellez. Lettermen R/L: 23/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Bryan Sanchez (6-0, 150, 4.8), QB Dylan Cash Llamas (5-8, 155, 4.9), LB Jordan Perez (5-9, 175, 4.9), LB Jose Molina (5-10, 165, 4.9), RB Ja'Zavien Lloyd, RB/LB Nick Torres (5-7, 145, 4.8), DL Devin Gamez (5-10, 180, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Voks return a strong foundation and are in a good position to build on last year's playoff run. Tellez said last season's success is a good sign for the program's future. The Voks will ride on the shoulders of WR/DB Sanchez (143 yards receiving; 42 yards rushing; 45 tackles, 3 INTs), a do-it-all guy. RB Ja'Zavien Lloyd (1,334 yards, 16 TDs rushing) is the team's top offensive threat. QB Llamas (1,076 yards, 10 TDs passing; 189 yards, 2 TDs rushing) runs the Voks' pro-style offense that tallied most of the team's 357 points - the most in the program's 95-year history. LBs Perez (74 tackles, 1 INT) and Molina (64 tackles, 1 sack, 1 INT) lead the defense.

SAM HOUSTON HURRICANES

Coach: Jeremy Williams. Lettermen R/L: 32/16. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Lebron Delane (5-10, 170, 4.5), LB Stephan McGowan (6-1, 185, 4.5), RB Jeremiah Johnson Spears (5-8, 165, 4.5), RB Germaine Carson (5-8, 155, 4.4), DL Antonio Marin (5-10, 245, 4.9), WR Treston Zacharie (6-0, 155, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Jayremey Orosco (5-9, 240), OL/DL Jeremiah Stevenson (5-9, 290). Top sophomore: ATH Xavier Youngblood (6-2, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: ATH Mario Ringo Jr., DB Markieze Rice, OL Trinidad Carpenter, OL/DL Aidan Ward Russell, RB Deundray Thomas.

2025 notes: Williams believes his team's experience puts them in the mix for their first district championship since 2015 when the Hurricanes' went back-to-back. DB Delane (50 tackles, 2 INTs, 7 TFL) holds the most experience as a fourth-year starter. DL Marin (15 tackles, 4 TFL) will be a mainstay in the front. LB McGowan is poised for a breakthrough season, Williams said. RBs Spears (343 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 122 yards, 1 TD receiving) and Carson (445 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 134 yards, 2 TDs receiving) are versatile playmakers. WR Zacharie (305 yards, 3 TDs) is also set up for a big season. ATH Youngblood has plenty of upside and can fit a lot of needs at the skilled positions. ATH Ringo is a dangerous kick and punt returner.



Sione VAEA
DL
Lubbock-Cooper



Joe CASTLES
QB
Wichita Falls
Memorial



Maguire GASPERSION
QB
Argyle



De'Marius LOGAN
DE
Colleyville
Heritage

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 13-5A DII Preview

ALAMO HEIGHTS MULES

Coach: Ron Rittmann. Lettermen R/L: 19/46. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 12-1 region semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB D.K. Garza (5-10, 180, 4.5), WR Landon Balldin (5-8, 170, 4.4), DL Gianni Tovar (5-10, 255, 5.1), DB/WR Trip Johnson (5-8, 155, 4.5), LB/DL Albert Colglazier (6-2, 200, 4.8), OL Greyson Hanzel (6-0, 285, 5.3). Top juniors: RB Blake Bader (5-10, 180, 4.4), QB Easton Stone (5-10, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: ATH William Bishop (5-9, 185, 4.6).

Other prospects: QB Watson Lasswell, OL Sebastian Gutierrez, OL Jaydee Rodriguez, DB Lee Brockwell, WR Joe Gaidusek, OL Abel Martinez, LB Jack Hollimon, OL Ben Pitamber.

2025 notes: For the first time since Rittmann's first season at Alamo Heights in 2020, the Mules appear to be in rebuilding mode. Nevertheless, expectations are high as evidenced by their 48-5 record since 2021. RB Garza (1,365 yards, 25 TDs; 214 yards, 2 TDs receiving) offers tremendous versatility that includes special teams with two kickoff returns for scores last year. OL Hanzel will help lead the way for Garza. WR Balldin (328 yards, 4 TDs receiving) is a big-play threat. DB/WR Johnson (27 tackles, 1 INT) will likely get more touches on offense. DL Tovar (25 tackles) and LB/DL Colglazier (53 tackles, 8 sacks) lead the defense.

BOERNE GREYHOUNDS

Coach: Brett Sawyer. Lettermen R/L: 24/35. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 11-4 state semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Ben Bays (6-4, 225, 4.6); WR Eli Nickolas (6-1, 180), DL Blake Burkholder (6-0, 250), DB Jake Perez (6-1, 175), WR Zach Freasier (6-0, 185), DL Cash Gaitlin (6-0, 210).

2025 notes: Although the Greyhounds usher in a new coaching era, there is not going to be much change. Sawyer enters his first season as head coach after serving as the Greyhounds' defensive coordinator under Che Hendrix for seven seasons. Sawyer was promoted after Hendrix accepted a job as an analyst with the Arkansas Razorbacks. Sawyer takes over a program that advanced to the state semifinals in its first season in Class 5A. That's the good news. The bad news is Hank Hendrix, who passed for 4,000 yards and 46 touchdowns, moved to Arkansas with his father. That's the biggest need for a team that is fairly solid with pass-catchers, including TE Bays (531 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and WR Nickolas (770 yards, 6 TDs receiving).

HARLANDALE INDIANS

Coach: Justin Lozano. Lettermen R/L: 10/33. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Julian Aguillon (5-11, 175, 4.7), LB Ryan Gonzalez (5-9, 190, 4.9), DB Santiago Rivas (5-10, 180, 4.7), OL Jermaine Ramirez (5-10, 220, 5.2), WR Christian Huizar (5-8, 160, 4.7), DL Edgar Garza (5-9, 205, 5.0), RB Giovanni Silva (5-6, 165, 4.9), DB George Gonzalez (6-0, 175, 4.7), WR Armando Munoz, DL Michael Ibanez, LB Roman Lopez.

2025 notes: The Indians have work to do to get into postseason contention after graduating a majority of their squad that tallied two victories last season. Despite that, Lozano is confident the team is ready to build off his first season at Harlandale. The Indians strength is on the offensive line where they have three returning starters, led by Ramirez, a center. QB Unyces Cestou (1,000 yards, 14 TDs passing; 400 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is a dual threat. RB Aguillon averaged 5.0 yards a carry in three games. LB Gonzalez (55 tackles) leads the defense. The Indians possess talent in the secondary, but lack experience.

MCCOLLUM COWBOYS

Coach: David Wilkinson. Lettermen R/L: 24/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jeremiah Guerra (5-8, 165), QB/DB Hayden Gonzales (5-8, 180), OL Draecyn Sanchez (5-9, 230), RB/DB Dominik Zapata (5-6, 160), RB/LB Nate Moreno (5-7, 180), RB/LB Davan Felan (5-9, 200), LB/RB Justin Barrientos (5-8, 165), OL Mario Meditlin (5-10, 230), QB/DB Jordan Casares (5-8, 155), DL J.P. Fisher, OL Eduardo Flores, WR Alec Pacheco, WR Robert Roque, DB/WR Aalijah Miranda, K David Garza, OL Elijah Garcia, DB/RB Cayden Anta.

2025 notes: Wilkinson arrives at McCollum following a successful stint as an assistant at Boerne where he was part of a staff that advanced to the state semifinal last season in the Greyhounds' first year in Class 5A. Wilkinson is familiar with McCollum after Boerne defeated the Cowboys during district play last year. He previously served as head coach at Baytown Lee for three years. The Cowboys return a solid group that includes QB Zapata (616 yards, 7 TDs passing), WR Gonzales (175 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and LB Barrientos (50 tackles).

TIVY ANTLERS

Coach: Curtis Neill. Lettermen R/L: 23/27. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DL Anthony Sanchez (5-9, 270, 5.4), WR/

District 13-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB D.K. Garza, Alamo Heights

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Ben Bays, Boerne

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. San Antonio Alamo Heights (1,535)
2. Boerne (1,426)
3. Victoria West (1,851)
4. Kerrville Tivy (1,396)
5. San Antonio Veterans Memorial (1,697)
6. San Antonio Harlandale (1,818)
7. San Antonio McCollum (1,679)

QB Colin Rose (5-11, 165, 4.6), WR President Calamaco (5-11, 160, 4.8), WR Guy Flores (6-0, 175, 4.2), LB/DB George Eastland (5-9, 175, 4.9), RB Aiden Zavala (5-6, 170, 4.7). Top juniors: WR Evan Batts (5-8, 165, 4.7), DL Sam Barber (6-4, 215, 5.1). Top sophomore: ATH Kyrin Arnelin (6-2, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Tomas Arreola, DL Sam Baker, DL Braden Borkowski, OL Amado Hernandez, LB Hayden Foster, DL Case Land, ATH Josh Wheatfall, WR/TE Wesley Miller.

2025 notes: Neill was named David Jones' successor in March and is a head coach for the first time in his 25-year career. He takes over a program that has advanced to the playoffs in two of the last three seasons. Neill likes his depth at the skill positions, including WR Calamaco (846 yards, 12 TDs receiving), who had a breakout season, and WR Flores (468 yards, 5 TDs receiving), who played just five games because of a foot injury. RB Zavala (711 yards rushing) had more than 1,000 all-purpose yards. WR/QB Rose (752 yards, 13 TDs receiving) is expected to play quarterback. DL Sanchez (78 tackles), a two-time all-district selection, leads the defense. LB/DB Eastland (35 tackles) excels inside the box and in the secondary.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PATRIOTS

Coach: Bobby Irvin. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Payton Beach (6-4, 210, 4.9), DL Akeem Hunte (6-3, 245, 4.7), TE Anthony Keith (6-3, 220, 4.8), RB Bryce Boden (5-8, 165, 4.7), LB Keandrius Harrington (5-7, 170, 4.6), DB Bryce Cole (5-8, 160, 4.6), OL Adrian Ruiz (5-11, 255, 5.1), QB Evan Cantu (5-11, 170, 4.7), WR Antonio Grissom (5-9, 160, 4.7), DB Yeshaya Taylor, OL Maximus Gonzalez, WR David Jones-Hadnott.

2025 notes: The Patriots look to bounce back after missing the playoffs for the first time in the program's seven-year history. It will be a challenge after graduating key skill players while competing in a tough district. The Patriots' strength is in the trenches. DL Beach (64 tackles, 7 sacks) was the district newcomer of the year last season as a sophomore. DL Hunte (48 tackles, 1 sack), LB Harrington (68 tackles, 3 sacks) and DB Cole (61 tackles, 4 INTs) offer valuable experience. While the Patriots search for a starting quarterback, they'll rely on the experience of RB Boden (438 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and TE Keith, a third-year starter. WR Jones-Hadnott (214 yards receiving) might be ready to step into a bigger role.

VICTORIA WEST WARRIORS

Coach: Courtney Boyce. Lettermen R/L: 29/21. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Tristan Bernard (5-10, 165, 4.4), WR/DB Jeret Swanson (5-10, 165, 4.4), DB/WR Tay'vian Peoples (5-10, 170, 4.5), LB/DB Jacob Freeman (6-3, 200, 4.5), OL Cam'Ron Hamilton (6-5, 300, 5.2), RB/DB Jenesis Jeffries (6-0, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: DL Kayden Leal (5-10, 215, 4.6), WR Aiden DeLeon (5-8, 150, 4.5). Top sophomore: Tristan Rodriguez (6-1, 205, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB Nolan Boyce, DB Ethan Guerra (5-10, 170, 4.6), DL Kevin Cupp (6-2, 225, 4.7), OL Elijah Flores (6-2, 280, 5.3), OL Branden Kirby, LB Jevon Galvan, DL Andrew Henley, DL Colton Gay.

2025 notes: The Warriors have the components in place to make a run for their first district championship since 2015. WR Bernard (1,135 yards, 12 TDs; 374 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is a speedster with breakaway ability. He also totaled nearly 400 return yards and had two more scores on special teams. WR Swanson (1,047 yards, 9 TDs) is an offensive weapon with speed. RB Jeffries (1,084 yards, 16 TDs; 234 yards, 3 TDs receiving) brings balance. The big hole is quarterback. Coach Boyce said senior Boyce (102 yards, 1 TD passing) is ready to take the role. The defense is solid with DB Peoples (87 tackles, 6 INTs), who earned all-state honors, and LB/DB Freeman (108 tackles, 23 TFL, 12.5 sacks), who can also play on the line if needed.



Barrington STRICKLAND
ATH
Everman



Peyton MILLER
OL
Anna



Blake MCLANE
WR
Frisco Emerson



Max WRIGHT
OL
Melissa

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

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DISTRICT 14-5A DII Preview

CARROLL TIGERS

Coach: Cal Neatherlin. Lettermen R/L: 40/22. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Braylen Swanson (5-10, 170, 4.7), DB Da'Shaun Porter (6-1, 170, 4.7), LB Kaiden Garcia (5-11, 223, 4.7), LB Koby Soliz (5-10, 175, 4.8), WR Charles Marth (5-8, 165, 4.5), DB Ryan Guerra (6-1, 170, 4.6), WR Ignacio Arrellano (5-7, 140, 4.6), OLB Aiden Ben-David (5-10, 180), RB Sebastian Robles (5-7, 165, 4.7), OL Pedro Garcia, OL Joseph Villarreal, OL Roger Thomas, TE/DE Eloy Rodriguez, RB Jesse Garcia, WR/DB Cameron Salinas, OL Nick Mendez, LB Paul Garcia.

2025 notes: The Tigers found the breakthrough they had been searching for last fall, claiming a playoff spot for the first time in eight years. The new starting QB will have gamebreakers around him in WR Swanson (583 yards, 3 TDs receiving), WR Marth and RB Garcia (479 yards, 5 TDs rushing). DB Porter (76 tackles, 2 INT) gives the team a ballhawk on defense while LB Garcia's physicality is his biggest attribute. Carroll will need to address talented edge defenders that have graduated, but if the Tigers have someone step into the spots, Neatherlin expects the team to be in contention for a district championship.

GREGORY-PORTLAND WILDCATS

Coach: Brent Davis. Lettermen R/L: 16/32. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Carter Dominguez (5-10, 155, 4.7), RB Cody Adame (5-10, 175, 4.6), TE/DB Ryder Harrison (6-3, 195, 4.6), LB Aiden Moreno (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL Kali'i Leomiti (6-3, 310, 5.5), DE Cole Zipprian (6-0, 205, 4.8), RB/DB Isaac Gonzales (5-10, 185, 4.7), OL Gilbert Moreno (5-10, 230, 5.4), WR/DB Cohen Bartee (6-1, 170, 4.6), DB Camren Garcia, DB Cooper Edwards, DB Gunner Gleinig, DE Angel Reyes, DL Elijah Fontenot, DL Brody Cameron, WR Elijah Hill, WR Braylin Nicholas.

2025 notes: While the Wildcats will have to rework their passing attack with inexperienced pieces, RB Adame (1,300 yards, 16 TDs rushing) will likely lead the way while new starters cut their teeth. QB Dominguez played receiver last year and will move behind center giving the team an athletic presence at the position. While the running game, including an experienced OL in Leomiti, could spearhead the offense, defense will hitch their wagon to the defensive front. LB Moreno (95 tackles) will be the leader while DE Zipprian (74 tackles, 3 sacks) is a vocal anchor for the defense. Even with new faces in the passing game, the team expects to be better and again challenge for a district title and beyond.

KING MUSTANGS

Coach: Austin Menner. Lettermen R/L: 23/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: TE Noah Serrata (6-2, 230, 4.7), DL John Moreno (5-10, 300, 5.7), WR/DB Damon Smith (6-4, 160, 4.5), LB Caden Stringer (5-8, 165, 4.7), DB Martin Garcia (5-8, 150, 4.6), OL Luke Lawson (6-1, 235, 5.0), OL Roma Rayo (6-3, 270, 5.5), DL Maddox Pedraza (6-4, 255, 5.2), QB/DB Sebastian Hernandez (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR Kevin Rhoder, QB/DB Emanuel Bustamante, RB Gilbert Castro, RB Leandrew Salgado, LB Zach Garcia, LB Alex Alejandro, WR/DB Joseph Pedroza.

2025 notes: Menner comes over from a successful program across town in Corpus Christi Miller to lead his first team. The Mustangs will have to find a new QB, but that player will have some size to throw the ball to as TE Serrata and WR/DB Smith provide big targets moving down the field. DL Moreno and LB Stringer are players that could make an impact for the team's defense as King tries to snap an eight-year playoff drought. OL Rayo and OL Lawson give the team a pair of sizeable bodies up front to help keep the offense rolling as Menner sees the unit as the strength of the team.

MILLER BUCCANEERS

Coach: Justin Evans. Lettermen R/L: 40/18. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 11-3 region finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Jayden Vela (5-8, 170, 4.9), RB/DE Adrian Luna (5-11, 240, 4.8), DB Khalil Davis (5-10, 170, 4.6), WR Roderick Taylor (6-2, 190, 4.5), DE Deion Jones (6-2, 240, 4.9), WR Izaiah Gidrey (6-2, 170, 4.5),

District 14-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Cody Adame, Gregory-Portland

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jayden Vela, Corpus Christi Miller

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Corpus Christi Miller (1,397)
2. Gregory-Portland (1,500)
3. Corpus Christi Carroll (1,893)
4. Corpus Christi Ray (1,601)
5. Corpus Christi King (1,362)
6. Corpus Christi Moody (1,332)

LB Espn Cole (5-9, 165, 4.8), RB Jordan Davis (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR Dexter Brantley (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL Tristan Gray, WR Jeremy Holmes, RB Daryl Donaldson, OL Homero Gomez, QB David James, RB Tayshaun Taylor, QB Uriah Howard, DE Khrystian Shelton.

2025 notes: The faces will be different, although the last names will be familiar for a Bucs team that again carries lofty expectations. Despite losing the most talented class in Evans' tenure, he again thinks Miller can challenge for a Region IV crown. WR Taylor (628 yards, 8 TDs receiving) is the most experienced skill player and one of a number of younger siblings of past standouts on the roster. WR Gidrey and WR Brantley saw increased action late last season and could breakout. LB Vela is one of the defensive leaders (158 tackles, 4 sacks) along with DB Davis (58 tackles, 6 INTs). If the Bucs can fill some holes up front, Miller could again be the team to chase in the Coastal Bend.

MOODY TROJANS

Coach: Michael Cantu. Lettermen R/L: 19/21. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 5-5/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Kayden Dufour (5-9, 180, 4.5), RB/DB Romeo Castillo (5-7, 165, 4.6), OL/DL Robert Garcia (6-2, 245), RB/LB Traevon Dyer (5-11, 190, 4.7), QB/DB Dylan Prado (5-10, 180, 4.7), OL Antony Flores (6-2, 300), RB/DB Ethan Martinez (5-9, 170, 4.6), QB Jaidyn Gonzalez (5-11, 170), TE/DE Cash Orgas, OL Johnathan Moreno, DB Raul Banda, TE/DE Juan Rodriguez, TE/DE Eragon Padron, TE Rigoberto Hernandez.

2025 notes: The Trojans and their Slot-T attack present challenges for defenses with so few higher classification teams operating the scheme, and they are among the best at it. RB Dufour returns after a stellar campaign (1,250 yards, 12 TDs rushing) along with RB/DB Castillo (669 yards, 6 TDs rushing) who form a formidable 1-2 punch. Moody also brings back an experienced signal-caller in QB Prado, who is in his third year running the offense. Cantu said the team needs to find new faces to join OL/DL Garcia up front to lead the way if Moody is to find a way to snap its playoff drought.

RAY TEXANS

Coach: Craig Charlton. Lettermen R/L: 19/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Tripp Thompson (6-0, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Brian McCullum (5-8, 174, 4.9), DB Cuatro Kennedy (6-2, 170, 4.9), DE/LB Jaycen Elmore (5-11, 185, 5.0), DB Nico Hill-Zanoni (6-0, 170, 4.8), OL C.J. Salinas (5-11, 220, 5.2), DB Jason Gutierrez (5-10, 160, 4.8), WR Jack Pohlmeier (6-4, 190, 5.0), LB Hunter Holland (6-0, 175, 5.2), DE James Stevenson, DB Aric Rodriguez, WR Huzefa Ullah, TE Ismael Nunez.

2025 notes: A year after snapping a six-season postseason drought, the Texans will have to rely on new faces up front on offense. The team will be buoyed by the return of QB Thompson (1,525 yards, 11 TDs passing), who had a breakout campaign. RB/LB McCullum (428 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 44 tackles, 6 sacks) was a force as a freshman as a two-way star. Charlton says the team will be experienced, but young and expects a strong junior core to lead the team. Defensively, the Texans expect to be talented on the back end with DB Kennedy (46 tackles, 3 INTs), DB Hill-Zanoni (31 tackles) and DB Gutierrez leading the charge.



Adam
WEST
WR
Seagoville



Chris
MARTINEZ
QB
Ennis



Keith
DOTIE
DL
Mesquite Poteet



Za'ko
DAVIS
RB
Midlothian
Heritage



Blanton
HALE
DB/QB
Hallsville



Jack
MERRYMAN
QB
Montgomery



Slade
SHEPPARD
ATH
Nederland



Smith
ROLLINS
RB/FS
New Caney
West Fork

DC
TX

ie Campbell

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 15-5A DII Preview

ALICE COYOTES

Coach: Joe Castellano. Lettermen R/L: 21/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Landon Brunston (5-10, 195, 4.8), WR/DB Collin Tsesmelis (5-11, 170, 4.9), RB/DB Ryder Salaiz (5-8, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Landon Guerra (5-9, 165, 4.9), OL/DL Tyler Rosales (5-9, 265, 5.5), WR/DB Maddex Carrillo (5-10, 160, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Louie Villarreal (6-1, 265, 5.5), RB/DE Demarcus Charles (5-10, 180, 5.1). Top sophomore: WR/DB Alvaro Tunchez (5-10, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB Gilbert Trevino, OL/DL Victor Cariaga, OL/DL Estevan Cabrera, WR/DB Joseph Garza, WR/DB Alonzo Gonzalez, RB/LB Roel Gonzalez, RB/DL Michael Martin, RB/LB Armando Perez.

2025 notes: Alice made a successful jump up to 5A, going undefeated in district play to win a second-straight league title. Ten returning starters will look to make it three straight. The Coyotes are strongest on the interior with OL/DL Rosales and OL/DL Villarreal battling in the trenches and creating space for RB/DB Salaiz (637 yards, 4 TDs rushing). RB/DL Brunston (59 tackles, 7 sacks) is a force on the defensive front, while WR/DB Carrillo (75 tackles, 3 INTs) and WR/DB Guerra (35-470 yards, 5 TDs receiving) are coming off strong sophomore campaigns. There are questions surrounding the passing game, but the presence of the sure-handed WR/DB Tsesmelis (60-820 yards, 8 TDs receiving) will help the Coyotes churn out explosive plays offensively.

PIONEER DIAMONDBACKS

Coach: Eddie Galindo. Lettermen R/L: 21/31. Starters returning O/D: 4/1. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Dylan Tijerina (5-10, 215, 4.8), ATH William Goodloe (6-2, 178, 4.6), RB Marcus Perales (5-10, 168, 4.7), DB Damian Hernandez (5-6, 175, 4.7), OL George Garcia (6-0, 260, 5.3), LB Sean Espinosa (5-7, 190, 5.0). Top juniors: WR Alejandro Mata (5-7, 150, 4.6), DB Isaac Rios (6-2, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: LB Edgar Garza (5-11, 180, 5.0).

Other prospects: QB/DB Malakai Galindo, OL Philip Sarimento, DL Eric Garcia, DB Jonathon Salinas, WR Andrew Leal, DL Djeiby Gaither, DL Joshua Trujillo, OL Fabian Rauda.

2025 notes: The Diamondbacks return key guys at key positions but will depend on multiple players to step into starting roles. ATH Goodloe (954 yards, 12 TDs passing; 831 yards, 9 TDs rushing) hurt defenses as a dual-threat last season and will look to take his game to another level with WR Mata (42-311 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and WR Leal (18-228 yards, 2 TDs receiving) seeing plenty of targets coming their way. Three-year starter RB Tijerina (849 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is a bruising back who can break big gains, while RB Perales (558 yards, 5 TDs rushing) looks to build off a strong sophomore campaign. The Diamondbacks are young defensively with DB Salinas (45 tackles) and DB Hernandez (31 tackles) providing the most experience.

ROMA GLADIATORS

Coach: Francisco Villanueva. Lettermen R/L: 27/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 4-6/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Elijah Garza (6-1, 190, 4.7), FB Ruben Garcia (5-9, 140, 4.9), OL Diego Diaz (6-4, 300, 5.7), LB Diego Mendez (5-8, 170, 4.9), LB Leonardo De La Garza (5-10, 180, 5.0), DL Manvel Alaniz (5-11, 260, 5.5). Top juniors: TE Raul Ramirez (6-1, 190, 5.0), LB Jason Hinojosa (5-9, 170, 5.0). Top sophomore: OL Alejandro Ramirez (6-2, 250, 5.5).

Other prospects: RB Jorge Tamayo, FB Jose Macias, OL Nicolas Paez, DL Pablo Villareal, DB Ahmed Guerra, DB Alejandro Garcia, LB Carlos Mondragon, DB Yahir Torres.

2025 notes: Roma's run of back-to-back playoff appearances ended last season but the Gladiators are determined to earn their spot in 15-5A DII. Roma has an experienced team and it starts with OL Diaz

District 15-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Calvin Harris, Sharyland

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Ryan Guerra, Mission Veterans Memorial

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Alice (1,364)
2. Mission Sharyland (1,793)
3. Mission Veterans Memorial (1,839)
4. Sharyland Pioneer (1,721)
5. Roma (1,765)

leading a dominant offensive line in the Slot-T. FB Garcia (920 yards, 10 TDs rushing; 5-109 yards, 1 TD receiving) had success running behind them last year and proved he's also a receiving threat out of the backfield. QB Garza (402 yards, 2 TDs passing; 215 yards, 2 TDs rushing) was learning the system last year and expects to take a step forward with valuable experience under his belt. The front seven will be Roma's strength defensively, led by LB Mendez (72 tackles, 4 sacks) and LB De La Garza (40 tackles).

SHARYLAND RATTLERS

Coach: Craig Krell. Lettermen R/L: 24/27. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Calvin Harris, WR Paco Gomez, WR Bruno Cavazos, WR Sebastian Martinez, LB Ryan Esquivel, DL Oscar Casso. Top juniors: WR Luis Balderas, OL Aiden Garza.

2025 notes: Sharyland will have one of South Texas' most dangerous offenses with seven returning starters and impact players across the board. QB Harris (2,943 yards, 30 TDs passing; 700 yards, 12 TDs rushing) emerged as one of the top dual-threats in the RG. He can make every throw required and possesses speed to leave defenses in the dust. The Rattlers also return their top two receivers in Gomez (49-899 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and Cavazos (45-768 yards, 5 TDs receiving), whose chemistry with Harris should take another step forward. Seniors LB Esquivel (38 tackles) and DL Casso (21 tackles) will be tasked with leading the defense. Sharyland has gone two years without a district title but this year's group has the talent to change that.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PATRIOTS

Coach: David Gilpin. Lettermen R/L: 20/34. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Ryan Guerra (5-9, 175, 4.9), LB Cuauhtemoc Labastida (6-0, 185, 5.0), WR/DB Quentin Valverde (5-10, 160, 4.8), DB RJ Garcia (5-9, 170, 4.9), DL Guillermo Garcia (5-10, 175, 5.1), RB Benji Martinez (5-9, 160, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Eric Barrientos (5-10, 195, 4.9), DB Nathan Rodriguez (5-9, 160, 4.8). Top sophomore: QB Roman Reyna (6-0, 4.9).

Other prospects: WR Edgar Hernandez, WR Freddy Villarreal, OL Jared Chapa, RB/DB Carlos Abrego, LB Miguel Gomez, WR Joey Hernandez, OL Carlos Barrera, WR Kaiden Espino.

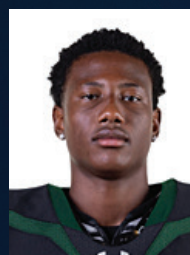
2025 notes: Sophomore QB Reyna (900 yards, 6 TDs passing) broke onto the scene late last season but proved to be more than capable of running the Patriots' spread offense. RB Martinez (351 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 30-332 yards, 2 TDs receiving) will serve as the team's primary ball-carrier after displaying running and pass-catching chops as a junior. Filling holes in the trenches and limiting turnovers will be key as giveaways hurt the Patriots down the stretch last season. Defensively, Mission Veterans brings back experience in its linebacking corps and secondary. LB Guerra (105 tackles, 32 TFL, 5 sacks) and LB Labastida (81 tackles, 11 TFL) are tough in the middle, while DBs Garcia (63 tackles) and Valverde (70 tackles) combined for seven takeaways a season ago.



Aaron WOLFORD
OL
Port Neches-Groves



Isaiah WILLIAMS
DB
Fort Bend Marshall



Jayden WARREN
WR
Iowa Colony



Will SHEPARD
QB
Belton



Jalen GUDE
LB
Waco



London SMITH
WR
Waco University



Matthew CLEAR
LB
Elgin



Alister VALLEJO
DL
Liberty Hill

DC TX

le Campbell

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

DISTRICT 16-5A DII Preview

EDCOUCH-ELSA YELLOW JACKETS

Coach: Victor Cardenas. Lettermen R/L: 20/28. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: DE Derek Cardenas (5-10, 180, 4.8), DB Israel Campos (5-9, 150, 4.7), DB Marcus Garcia (5-8, 4.6), QB Jason Pena (5-8, 160, 4.6), RB Ayden Mercado (5-6, 165, 4.8), WR John Amaya.

2025 notes: Edcouch-Elsa is coming off its first district title in 11 years and out to defend its throne, but it'll take all hands on deck after graduating a strong senior class. Their "Thunder Defense" was lights out last season and returns an explosive pass rusher in DE Cardenas (32 tackles, 6 TFL, 2 sacks) and playmaking DB Campos (56 tackles, 7 INTs) and DB Garcia (43 tackles, 3 INTs) patrolling the secondary. QB Pena will step into a starting role after playing as a slot receiver in 2024. RB Mercado (460 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and WR Amaya (181 yards, 1 TD receiving) will be his top offensive weapons in Edcouch-Elsa's Gun-T. The top priority entering the season is filling holes on the OL and DL.

LOPEZ LOBOS

Coach: Shaun Tarantola. Lettermen R/L: 18/18. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Eliazar Iruegas (5-11, 160, 4.7), OL Sebastian Uribe (6-3, 275, 5.4), TE/DE Thaddeus Bognay (6-4, 220), QB/DB Ricardo Mondragon (5-9, 160, 4.8), ATH Diego Guerra (5-10, 155, 4.7), ATH Kenneth Mitchell (6-3, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Jorge Lara (5-10, 155, 4.9), DT Juan Armendariz (5-10, 280, 5.5), RB/LB Ricardo Saucedo (5-9, 175, 4.9), OL Ricardo Cantu, DE Roberto Infante, WR Aaron Requena, WR Noe Cruz, RB Jonathan Hernandez, DB Gerry Vasquez, DE Juan Saucedo, OL Diego Hernandez.

2025 notes: The Lobos are coming off their best season and first playoff appearance since 2017. Lopez loses its leading passer, rusher and receiver but still returns seven offensive starters to help out. WR Iruegas (34-406 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will see more targets this year, which could come from QB/DB Mondragon (54 tackles) or ATH Guerra (32-280 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 2 INTs). OL Uribe leads a front five that features four returning starters. TE/DE Bognay and ATH Mitchell will see time on both sides of the ball, but their size in the trenches defensively could be a difference maker. If the Lobos can figure things out offensively, they can contend for another playoff spot.

MERCEDES TIGERS

Coach: Roger Adame. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Robert Sanchez (5-9, 185, 4.7), QB Diego Bravo (5-9, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Frank Gonzalez (5-6, 160, 4.8), OL Eddie Ramirez (6-3, 310, 5.2), LB Jerrin Gonzalez (5-10, 185, 4.9), WR/DB Frankie Salinas (5-11, 165, 4.8), OL Alex Garcia (5-10, 230, 5.1) WR Jason Garcia (5-8, 175, 4.9), RB/LB Noah Buenrostro (5-8, 180, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Aiden Reyes, LB Luke Rocha, DL Bryan Sanchez, WR Jacob Vega, WR Robbie Sanchez, DB Arturo Montes, WR/DB Isaiah Valdez, OL Daniel Anzaldua.

2025 notes: The Tigers have returned to form after a one-year playoff absence and will roll out a roster ready to make a run at the 16-5A DII throne. RB Sanchez (1,669 yards, 24 TDs rushing; 18-284 yards, 4 TDs receiving) returns as one of the RGV's top backs with game-breaking ability as a runner and receiver. QB Bravo (429 yards, 3 TDs passing; 475 yards, 2 TDs rushing) is set to take over full-time after playing in only five games last season and he'll have experienced OL Ramirez and Garcia protecting him. Mercedes also has multiple two-way threats that will impact the game all over the field in WR/DB Gonzalez (153 tackles), WR/DB Salinas (58 tackles, 3 INTs) and RB/LB Buenrostro (118 tackles).

PACE VIKINGS

Coach: Danny Pardo. Lettermen R/L: 28/19. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR David Melendez (6-2, 180, 4.9), DB Jesus Caballero (5-4, 148, 4.9), LB Athan

District 16-5A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Robert Sanchez, Mercedes

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Derek Cardenas, Edcouch-Elsa

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Mercedes (1,396)
2. Edcouch-Elsa (1,371)
3. Brownsville Pace (1,699)
4. Brownsville Lopez (1,814)
5. PSJA Southwest (1,618)
6. Brownsville Porter (1,744)

Lopez (5-10, 240, 5.2), QB Isaac Solis (5-9, 185, 5.0), WR Anthony Gonzalez (5-4, 150, 4.9), DL Narciso Rodriguez (5-11, 170, 4.9), OL Cesar Martinez (6-0, 228, 5.5), OL Sebastian Garza (5-10, 250, 5.6), FB Damian Majano (5-9, 200, 5.10), DB Marcus Rodriguez, LB Osvaldo Muniz, DL Joaquin Espinoza, LB Gilbert Hernandez, DB Derek Saucedo, WR/QB Juan Hernandez, RB Ernesto Torres.

2025 notes: The Vikings graduated a 2,000-yard rusher but return OLs Martinez and Garza to create space up front. Three-year starter QB Solis (902 yards, 10 TDs passing) missed time last season but is ready to go out with a bang. He'll be targeting WR Melendez (43-672 yards, 9 TDs receiving) and WR Gonzalez early and often, while FB Majano and RB Torres work out of the backfield. The Vikings' defense will feature all-district players on all three levels with DL Rodriguez (57 tackles, 7 TFL) in the trenches, LB Lopez (80 tackles, 8 TFL) on the second level and DB Caballero (90 tackles) in the back end.

PORTER COWBOYS

Coach: Carlos Uresti. Lettermen R/L: 15/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Diego Cabrera (5-8, 225, 5.1), DL Robert Kidd (6-0, 200, 5.1), DB Bobby Saenz (5-9, 155, 4.9), WR Luis Silva (5-9, 155, 4.9), ATH Oscar Vasquez (5-9, 155, 4.9), QB Edgar Lopez (6-0, 200, 5.1), OL Keilan Bradley (5-10, 225, 5.1), ATH Abraham Hipolito (5-9, 150, 5.0), RB Joseph Moreno, FB Ivan Alvarado, DB Ethan De La Cruz, DB Andres Gonzalez, DL Jesus Quezada.

2025 notes: The Cowboys' leadership will come from a pair of three-year starters up front in OL Cabrera and DL Kidd. Cabrera's strength captaining the offensive line will be key in opening up space for RB Moreno (700 yards, 5 TDs) and giving time to QB Lopez (650 yards, 5 TDs passing) as he operates downfield looking for WR Silva (12-178 yards, 1 TD receiving). Kidd anchors the defense alongside DL Quezada (50 tackles) while DB Saenz will attempt to shut down the passing game. ATH Vasquez and ATH Hipolito could also see action on both sides of the ball with several starting spots up for grabs.

PSJA SOUTHWEST JAVELINAS

Coach: Juan Leija. Lettermen R/L: 21/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH AJ Arevalo (5-8, 155, 4.6), LB Edward Montanez (5-7, 168, 4.9), DB Jaime Contreras (5-9, 140, 4.8), WR Carlos Luna (6-1, 185, 4.9), ATH Raul Garza (5-8, 175, 4.8), DL Edwin Palomera (5-8, 235, 5.2), LB Yordi Valencia (5-6, 168, 5.0), OL Josue Casas (5-10, 234, 5.3), QB Eduardo Morales (6-1, 165, 4.6), DL Jordan Sanchez, DB Bryan Mendoza, TE Joel Garcia.

2025 notes: Southwest has only made one playoff appearance in its 13-year history, but Leija has spent the last two seasons building the Javelinas up in hopes of adding another. ATH Arevalo (8-156 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 37 tackles) is a stud two-way player who will spend more time with the ball in his hands. WR Luna (50-674 yards, 5 TDs receiving) is another dangerous weapon in the passing game that should aid sophomore QB Morales make the transition from WR. LB Montanez (56 tackles, 7 TFL) has a nose for the ball and DL Palomera and DB Contreras give Southwest defensive leaders on all levels.



Gavin SOTO
DL
Pflugerville
Connally



Cole TAYLOR
QB
Pflugerville



Jeremiah MCKANE
WR/DB
San Antonio
Highlands



Lebron DELANE
DB
San Antonio
Sam Houston



Payton BEACH
DL
SA Veterans
Memorial



Tristan BERNARD
WR
Victoria West



Kayden DUFOUR
RB
Corpus Christi
Moody



Ryan GUERRA
LB
Mission Veterans
Memorial

DC
TX

ie Campbell

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

Class 5A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

5A DIVISION I

Smithson Valley

Larry Hill was thinking about one of his father's favorite sayings after finally winning the Class 5A Division I state championship — a 32–20 victory over Highland Park.

Before this season, Hill's legacy as the ninth-winningest coach in Texas high school football history carried a caveat: the one game he hadn't won — a state championship. He'd been there four times before and lost them all. Most didn't see how deeply that stung. But his father did. And every time Larry confided in him about the frustration of the biggest game always belonging to someone else, his dad had the same reply:

"You know, son, it's like pitching washers," he'd say. "You've got to get it around the hole enough, and one of these times, that sucker's going to flip over and roll in there."

Glenn Hill Sr. passed away at 93 this past August. Four months later, his son raised the trophy he never could.

"Dad, today it did," Larry Hill said.

Smithson Valley out-physicked High-

land Park, dominating time of possession (over 30 minutes) and outrushing the Scots 297–49 behind quarterback Cade Spradling and running back Bradley Sowersby.

Sowersby, who missed last year's state championship loss with a broken collarbone, made the most of his opportunity, carrying 22 times for 152 yards.

But it was Spradling who took home Offensive MVP honors, accounting for 208 total yards and two touchdowns. He ran into the teeth of Highland Park's defense 25 times and also played the majority of the game at outside linebacker, tying for second on the team with five tackles and a sack.

As time expired, Spradling walked off the field with blood dripping from his throwing hand onto his white pants — a modern-day Texas high school football folk hero. His gritty performance, paired with Defensive MVP Julian Colunga returning an interception for a touchdown while wearing a full arm cast, illustrated how a team with no players signed to play college football delivered Hill his first title.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — The reigning state finalist from 2023, the Rangers started No. 5 in *Texas Football's* preseason 5A Division I rankings.

TURNING POINT — It wasn't until Cade Spradling's touchdown run to put the Rangers up 32–20 with 3:39 left that Smithson Valley fans could finally celebrate.

TEAM MVP — Cade Spradling, who starred on both sides of the ball in guiding the Rangers to the promised land.

BY THE NUMBERS — **325:** Larry Hill's win total over his 34 seasons as a head coach...and the last one was the sweetest one.

Smithson Valley's Road to the Title (14–2)

SV 45, San Antonio Roosevelt 0
San Antonio Brennan 24, SV 13
SV 65, San Antonio Madison 0
SV 42, Boerne Champion 10

San Antonio Pieper 39, SV 36
SV 30, San Antonio Wagner 8
SV 47, Seguin 7
SV 29, New Braunfels 18

SV 70, San Antonio MacArthur 0
SV 45, Victoria East 0
SV 49, South San Antonio 7
SV 55, Edinburg Vela 13

SV 56, New Braunfels 21
SV 49, CC Flour Bluff 14
SV 21, Angleton 14
SV 32, Highland Park 20

5A DIVISION II

Richmond Randle

To understand how Richmond Randle beat South Oak Cliff 38–35 in the Class 5A Division II state championship, you have to understand two core maxims of the Lions' program.

"The mind is everything. What you believe, you become," is scrawled on the weight room wall. Randle had to believe it was a state championship program before it became one. South Oak Cliff, meanwhile, hasn't missed a title game in four years — longer than Randle has even had a varsity program (three seasons).

Another favorite phrase of head coach Brian Randle: "We bully bullies." That's exactly what the Lions did when it mattered most. With the clock winding down, Randle's defense — led by Texas A&M signee Chace Sims and Defensive MVP Ryan Malory — stuffed SOC on back-to-back run plays, forcing a desperation scramble field goal that sailed wide left as time expired.

"We're going to match energy," Randle said. "We're not going to allow you to push us around."

But Randle didn't just win at the end — they struck from the opening whistle. Sincere Timpson took the game's opening kickoff to the house on a reverse, and a muffed punt by SOC helped Randle jump out to a 14–0 lead.

Though South Oak Cliff outgained Randle 461–211 and rushed for 355 yards, the Lions' defense bowed up when it counted. Down 28–24, Randle forced a punt and then linebacker Kerry Pindred picked off a pass to set up the go-ahead score.

After SOC regained the lead at 35–31, special teams swung it again. Expecting a deep return, SOC kicked short — but Randle had moved Sean Smith up to the front line. He returned it 72 yards for the winning touchdown.

Sophomore running back Landen Williams-Callis paced the Lions with 23 carries for 101 yards and a score, earning Offensive MVP honors. Randle's offense leaned on creativity — heavy motion, misdirection, and a two-quarterback system with Keilan Sweeny and Tyler Skrabanek — to keep SOC's defense guessing.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — A promising young program with lots of athletes, Randle checked in at No. 7 in *Texas Football's* preseason 5A Division II rankings.

TURNING POINT — When the Lions opened District 9-5A DII play by whallop Fort Bend Marshall 45–7, it sent a message to the rest of the class.

TEAM MVP — Landen Williams-Callis, a sophomore superstar running back who gave the Lions a speed element few could match.

BY THE NUMBERS — **14:** Only one team managed to score more than 14 points against the Randle defense (South Oak Cliff)

Richmond Randle's Road to the Title (16–0)

Randle 35, Richmond Foster 14
Randle 61, Alief Elsik 14
Randle 62, Fort Bend Travis 7
Randle 45, Fort Bend Marshall 7

Randle 30, Alvin Iowa Colony 10
Randle 45, Texas City 13
Randle 69, Baytown Lee 7
Randle 58, Rosenberg Terry 0

Randle 68, Santa Fe 0
Randle 73, Lamar Consolidated 0
Randle 63, Belton 7
Randle 79, Elgin 0

Randle 28, Brenham 14
Randle 21, Alvin Iowa Colony 14 (OT)
Randle 42, Boerne 7
Randle 38, South Oak Cliff 35

DC
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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 5A

Class 5A SEASON IN REVIEW

2024 TSWA CLASS 5A ALL-STATE TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Landon Williams-Callis, Richmond Randle

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Chace Sims, Richmond Randle

COACH OF THE YEAR: Brian Randle, Richmond Randle

First-Team Offense

OG Logan Schram, Boerne
OG Weston Chaney, Argyle
OT Ty Haywood, Denton Ryan
OT Emeka Ugorji, South Oak Cliff
OC Gary Lassley, Frisco Lone Star
WR Kaydon Finley, Aledo
WR Daylan McCutcheon, Lovejoy
TE Jaivion Martin, Pflugerville
QB Jayden Paluseo, Flour Bluff
RB Landon Williams-Callis, Richmond Randle
RB Jakoby Dixon, Brenham
RB Jett Walker, Georgetown
FB Eric Powell, Wichita Falls Memorial
AP Tradarian Bell, Texas High
AP Michael Terry III, Alamo Heights
PK Trent Amaya, Smithson Valley

First-Team Defense

DL Chace Sims, Richmond Randle
DL Hudson Woods, Smithson Valley
DL Kamaurn Morgan, South Oak Cliff
DL Tiki Hola, Bastrop
DL Vakapuna Foketi, A&M Consolidated
LB Jayden Shelton, South Oak Cliff
LB Jamarion Phillips, South Oak Cliff
LB Jack Morse, Highland Park
LB Dillon Arkansas, Denton Ryan
DB Diego Davila, Smithson Valley
DB Chandler Love, Iowa Colony
DB Xavier Skowron, Texas City
DB Garrett Westrom, Argyle
P Cub Patton, Lubbock Cooper
UT Cade Spradling, Smithson Valley
KR Marcell Gipson Jr., South Oak Cliff

Second-Team Offense

OG Devin Cage, Corpus Christi Miller
OG Brant Hargrove, Georgetown
OT Jackson Christian, Port Neches-Groves
OT Marcus Garcia, Denton Ryan
OC Parker Miller, Smithson Valley
WR Aljour Miles II, Kaufman
WR FinAndre Mimms, CC Flour Bluff
WR Ryland Bradford, Abilene
TE Jackson Verdugo, College Station
QB Buck Randall, Highland Park
RB Broderick Taylor, CC Miller
RB Ryan Estrada, El Paso El Dorado
RB Cam Newton, Prosper Walnut Grove
FB Jaylin Williams, Houston Sterling
AP Aydan Martinez-Brown, College Station
PK Christian Munguia, Richmond Randle

Second-Team Defense

DL Kordae Houston, South Oak Cliff
DL Daniel Turner, Highland Park
DL Trevor Robinson, Victoria West
DL Gaven Rodriguez, Edcouch-Elsa
DL Uziah Warmate, Denton Ryan
LB Owen Magee, Lovejoy
LB Lamarcus Cullen, CC Miller
LB Troy Barco, Edcouch-Elsa
DB Aiden Uribe, Mission Veterans Memorial
DB Maurice Hightower, Angleton
DB RJ McIntosh, Lovejoy
DB Chris Vasquez, CC Veterans Memorial
DB Chris Brewer, Saginaw Brewer
P Carter Kopecky, South Oak Cliff
UT Jonah Williams, Galveston Ball
KR Kevondrick Taylor, Lufkin



Photo Credit: James Michael Abel

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 5A PLAYOFF RESULTS

DIVISION I

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Amarillo 45, El Paso El Dorado 14; Richland 37, Fort Worth Arlington Heights 16; Lubbock Monterey 63, El Paso Bel Air 0; Denton Ryan 77; Fort Worth Paschal 14; Aledo 63, Saginaw Chisholm Trail 7; Abilene 84, El Paso Parkland 0; Saginaw 41, Azle 39; Amarillo Tascosa 30, El Paso Amercias 9; Region II: Frisco Lone Star 59, Dallas White 7; Red Oak 35, Cedar Park 21; West Mesquite 28, McKinney North 14; Midlothian 35, Lake Belton 30; Highland Park 48, Leander Rouse 0; Frisco Wakeland 41, Carrollton Smith 7; Georgetown 48, Burleson Centennial 42; Frisco Reedy 55, Carrollton Creekview 16; Region III: Lufkin 63, Houston Milby 14; College Station 41, Crosby 10; Port Arthur Memorial 70, Galena Park 0; Angleton 35, Pflugerville Weiss 28; La Porte 42, Austin Anderson 21; Barbers Hill 84, Houston Sterling 13; College Station A&M Consolidated 62, Friendswood 20; Galveston Ball 28, Houston Waltrip 14; Region IV: San Antonio Pieper 63, San Antonio Southwest Legacy 0; CC Flour Bluff 35, McAllen Memorial 10; San Antonio Southwest 33, Seguin 26; CC Veterans Memorial 45, Mission 35; PSJA North 45, La Joya Palmview 3; New Braunfels 56, San Antonio Jay 16; Edinburg Vela 58, Harlingen South 27; Smithson Valley 49, South San Antonio 7. **AREA** – Region I: Richland 55, Amarillo 27; Denton Ryan 29, Lubbock Monterey 16; Aledo 59, Abilene 14; Amarillo Tascosa 35, Saginaw 13; Region II: Frisco Lone Star 34, Red Oak 28; Midlothian 45, West Mesquite 21; Highland Park 38, Frisco Wakeland 10; Frisco Reedy 49, Georgetown 45; Region III: College Station 49, Lufkin 35; Angleton 36, Port Arthur Memorial 29; La Porte 55, Barbers Hill 27; College Station A&M Consolidated 10, Galveston Ball 3; Region IV: CC Flour Bluff 57, San Antonio Pieper 56; San Antonio Southwest 30, CC Veterans Memorial 20; New Braunfels 35, PSJA North 32; Smithson Valley 55, Edinburg Vela 13. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Denton Ryan 48, Richland 35; Aledo 62, Amarillo Tascosa 7; Frisco Lone Star 39, Midlothian 35; Highland Park 31, Frisco Reedy 12; Region III: Angleton 35, College Station 34; La Porte 35, College Station A&M Consolidated 17; Region IV: CC Flour Bluff 35, San Antonio Southwest 28; Smithson Valley 56, New Braunfels 21. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Denton Ryan 31, Aledo 21; Region II: Highland Park 41, Frisco Lone Star 28; Region III: Angleton 24, La Porte 21; Region IV: Smithson Valley 49, CC Flour Bluff 14. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Highland Park 24, Denton Ryan 21; Smithson Valley 21, Angleton 14. **STATE FINAL** – Smithson Valley 32, Highland Park 20.

DIVISION II

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: El Paso Del Valle 63, Abilene Cooper 35; Lovejoy 49, Mansfield Timberview 19; Abilene Wylie 46, El Paso Address 10; Anna 45, Colleyville Heritage 10; Argyle 41, Frisco Emerson 21; Wichita Falls Memorial 70, El Paso Chapin 28; Prosper Walnut Grove 42, Arlington Seguin 35; Lubbock Cooper 38, Canutillo 14; Region II: South Oak Cliff 52, Terrell 14; Huntsville 45, Whitehouse 0; Midlothian Heritage 65, Seagoville 0; Marshall 35, Montgomery 14; Texarkana Texas High 56, Nederland 14; Crandall 61, Dallas Wilson 7; Port Neches-Groves 43, Hallsville 20; Kaufman 49, Dallas Hillcrest 21; Region III: Richmond Randle 63, Belton 7; Elgin 43, San Antonio Jefferson 16; Brenham 38, Texas City 0; Liberty Hill 69, San Antonio Sam Houston 28; Bastrop 66, San Antonio Lanier 14; Fort Bend Marshall 52, Waco University 14; Pflugerville 63, San Antonio Burbank 13; Iowa Colony 47, Killeen Ellison 6; Region IV: Alamo Heights 70, CC Ray 14; Mercedes 45, Mission Sharyland 20; CC Miller 66, Kerrville Tivy 28; Mission Sharyland Pioneer 35, Brownsville Lopez 21; Alice 54, Brownsville Pace 14; Victoria West 31, Gregory-Portland 28; Edcouch-Elsa 15, Mission Veterans Memorial 7; Boerne 39, CC Carroll 21. **AREA** – Lovejoy 45, El Paso Del Valle 21; Anna 56, Abilene Wylie 21; Argyle 28, Wichita Falls Memorial 21; Prosper Walnut Grove 34, Lubbock Cooper 28; Region II: South Oak Cliff 38, Huntsville 7; Marshall 21, Midlothian Heritage 12; Texarkana Texas High 58, Crandall 28; Port Neches-Groves 42, Kaufman 21; Region III: Richmond Randle 79, Elgin 0; Brenham 30, Liberty Hill 27; Fort Bend Marshall 38, Bastrop 10; Iowa Colony 44, Pflugerville 14; Region IV: Alamo Heights 75, Mercedes 14; CC Miller 59, Mission Sharyland Pioneer 6; Victoria West 63, Alice 13; Boerne 38, Edcouch-Elsa 3. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Lovejoy 52, Anna 49; Argyle 52, Prosper Walnut Grove 35; Region II: South Oak Cliff 35, Marshall 7; Port Neches-Groves 31, Texarkana Texas High 28; Region III: Richmond Randle 28, Brenham 14; Iowa Colony 31, Fort Bend Marshall 21; Region IV: CC Miller 38, Alamo Heights 28; Boerne 59, Victoria West 15. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Argyle 42, Lovejoy 17; Region II: South Oak Cliff 56, Port Neches-Groves 14; Region III: Richmond Randle 21, Iowa Colony 14; Region IV: Boerne 65, CC Miller 50. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – South Oak Cliff 37, Argyle 3; Richmond Randle 42, Boerne 7. **STATE FINAL** – Richmond Randle 38, South Oak Cliff 35.

**CLASS 4A**

Gonzales linebacker Christian Jurek awaits the snap during the Apaches' District 13-4A Division II matchup with Smithville. Jurek anchors an experienced Gonzales defense hoping to break through in a competitive district and region.

Photo by Russell Wilburn

Class 4A Cover Boy **JAMARION VINCENT**

WACO CONNALLY'S JUICE IS LOOSE

BY CARTER YATES

Through the first half of the 2020s, Waco Connally has emerged as Texas high school football's most underrated Division I hotbed. Oklahoma State cornerback Korie Black and Sam Houston linebacker Kavian Gaither kickstarted the trend, followed by a string of Texas Longhorns in Tre Wisner, Jelani McDonald, and Kobe Black.

Head coach Terry Gerik doesn't credit coaching. He says you know it when they're in eighth or ninth grade. They're different. They have the "Juice."

Jamarion Vincent, the next Connally Cadet to level up as a Baylor cornerback commit, is a prime example. Gerik witnessed the "Juice" when Vincent quarterbacked the freshman team. Down their best running back, Vincent scored five touchdowns in the first half. The only people who could stop him were the coaches.

"We had to pull him off the field because he was going to score every time," Gerik said.

But Gerik's second memory from that night had nothing to do with Vincent's play. After being pulled, Vincent stood next to his teammates on the sideline, just as engaged, congratulating others as enthusiastically as he had scored touchdowns. That's when Gerik knew his high school career would turn into something special.

They haven't taken him off the field since he reached the varsity level. As a junior, Vincent earned first team all-district 12-4A DII utility player honors after totaling 1,941 yards and 23 touchdowns as a quarterback, along with 34 tackles and eight pass breakups as a cornerback. He even returned both a fumble and a kickoff for touchdowns.

Vincent, the No. 1-ranked cornerback in Dave Campbell's Texas Football *Hot 100*, will specialize on defense once he reaches Big 12 football. But all the Division I athletes who've come out of Connally have played both ways — and most have lined up at quarterback.

"We try to put the best athlete we have at that quarterback position," Gerik said. "By the time we get to district, they have to be playing on the defensive side of the ball, too, if they're one of our top guys."

Whenever Vincent gets tired, he thinks about watching McDonald and Black as freshmen — and remembers what he must do to get to where they are now.

"It's a standard that you have to meet," Vincent said.

Except there's one area where Vincent may

have already surpassed the greats who came before him.

"He's probably one of the most competitive young men that I've coached," Gerik said.

Vincent's future might be on the football field, but he competes year-round. He's an all-region basketball player, and his verified 4.5 40-yard dash and 32-inch vertical jump also translate to track and field.

Recognition and accolades aren't what drive Vincent. When his mother, Brittany, was contacted for this story, she asked her son if he'd heard about it. "Already did the interview," he said. When Brittany used to pick him up from daycare at age 3, a childcare worker once suggested speech therapy because he never talked.

Now, every rep and every play is a chance to beat the person in front of him — and his own personal best. That's what really matters.

That attitude stems from being raised by his mother alone. Brittany used to run down the sidelines to keep pace with him when he scored touchdowns in elementary school, although she couldn't keep up by the time he was 10. She attacks life the way her son attacks football, working daily from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to support him. She'll gladly play that game to watch her son play his.

"He gives it his all in everything," Brittany said. "He's going to dunk on you, he might jump over you in football. I tell people all the time, 'Come watch him — it's a sight to see.'"



Jamarion VINCENT

Widely considered one of the best defensive backs in all of Texas high school football, Vincent makes plays all over the field for Waco Connally. Photo by Jamey Brooks

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A STATE RANKINGS

DIVISION I

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 CELINA State champs, DCTF coverboys and now preseason No. 1	16-0	3/5
2.	 CANYON WEST PLAINS The Wolves knocked on the door last year; can they kick it in?	11-4	10/7
3.	 KILGORE Don't be fooled by graduation: the Ragin' Red are still a threat	13-3	8/5
4.	 STEPHENVILLE The Jackets have all the nuts and bolts; can they reload offensively?	12-2	5/10
5.	 LA VERNIA The future is very bright for the Bears, but the present's strong too	11-4	6/6
6.	 SAN ANTONIO DAVENPORT A menacing front seven should carry the load early	10-2	4/5
7.	 FRISCO PANTHER CREEK Legit blue-chips all over the field for the Panthers	10-2	5/5
8.	 AUSTIN LBJ Speed, speed, speed — the Jaguars will fly	11-1	5/5
9.	 SULPHUR SPRINGS Working in a new QB is a challenge, but the Wildcats are legit	10-3	7/9
10.	 ALVARADO In a flip from last year, the defense will lead the way early	13-1	5/8
11.	 TYLER CHAPEL HILL They lost some studs, but Jeff Riordan's Bulldogs don't rebuild	10-4	6/10
12.	 BAY CITY Hopes are high after the Blackcats' best season since 2003	12-2	5/7
13.	 CORPUS CHRISTI CALALLEN 2024 was a return to form; could 2025 be a return to the top?	10-3	7/5
14.	 DECATUR A fourth year under Steve Huff should pay dividends	7-5	6/4
15.	 CANYON RANDALL If the young offense blossoms, the Raiders are a Region I threat	11-2	4/8
16.	 SPRINGTOWN The Porcupines have lots of skill talent, but need an OL to develop	10-2	3/7
17.	 DALLAS KIMBALL Expectations are high on Westmoreland Road	8-3	7/5
18.	 LINDALE Reinforcements are coming — the junior class is loaded	6-6	8/5
19.	 FORT BEND CRAWFORD They showed flashes in their first season; now, they're experienced	5-6	11/11
20.	 HUFFMAN HARGRAVE They'll be small, but the Hawks have tons of playmakers	9-2	8/8
21.	 FISCHER CANYON LAKE Sleepers alert! The Hawks have speed, size and swagger	8-4	8/11
22.	 EL CAMPO The defense is sound, as long as depth develops	6-5	6/5
23.	 LAMPASAS This is a young, scrappy team hungry to prove something	10-3	3/3
24.	 AUBREY The Chaps are in a reload phase — how quick will it be?	8-5	2/3
25.	 NEEDVILLE Strength up the middle: defensive line, LBs and secondary	7-5	5/4

DIVISION II

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 CARTHAGE The 4A program of record chases Championship No. 11	15-1	7/6
2.	 TEX. PLEASANT GROVE Josh Gibson's Hawks remind us of their recent title teams	10-3	9/8
3.	 WACO LA VEGA Don Hyde won't like being ranked this high, but his Pirates are stacked	12-4	8/6
4.	 BROCK The Eagles' new young faces are very promising	13-2	4/3
5.	 SEALY The Tigers have everything you need to win a title	10-4	9/8
6.	 BELLVILLE The Brahmas may not be as star-studded, but they're rock solid	8-4	7/6
7.	 SUNNYVALE With a strong core, this is a team built to play into December	9-4	7/7
8.	 WEST ORANGE-STARK Mustangs are getting back to WOS football: running and defense	9-3	6/5
9.	 GILMER The Buckeyes are light on experience, heavy on size	8-4	1/3
10.	 GRAHAM Graduation hammered the Steers, but tradition cures all	12-2	1/3
11.	 SILSBEE For a program known for skill guys, these Tigers are great up front	9-4	7/8
12.	 WIMBERLEY It's a new era for the Texans, and pedigree matters a ton	12-3	4/4
13.	 CUERO Exciting youngsters supplement a team with great OL play	9-4	6/5
14.	 GLEN ROSE Expect the O-line to lead the way while young players develop	10-3	4/5
15.	 MIDLAND GREENWOOD The arrow is pointing up; these Rangers could be special	10-2	6/8
16.	 HAMSHIRE-FANNETT Longhorns coming off back-to-back 10-win seasons	10-2	4/4
17.	 SEMINOLE This is the year to strike — this senior class is loaded	10-2	7/6
18.	 ROBINSON New coach Kevin Brown takes over a team with tons of firepower	8-3	6/5
19.	 SINTON The Pirates will go as far as their young defense takes them	13-1	7/3
20.	 ATHENS Could be the best Hornets team in a long time	8-3	10/6
21.	 LUBBOCK ESTACADO RB James Bozeman leads a team with tons of speed	7-5	8/6
22.	 BROOKSHIRE ROYAL Falcons could grab first outright district title since '05	7-4	7/8
23.	 VAN The heartbeat of this team will be its offensive line	10-4	4/5
24.	 CENTER New coach Nick Brown was OC for Aubrey's high-flying attack	8-3	6/6
25.	 LAGO VISTA If the secondary develops, they're a Region IV threat	9-4	7/5

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A PREVIEW

STARS, RIVALS, DRAMA: 4A'S GOT IT ALL

BY GREG TEPPER

Understandably, the two largest classifications in Texas high school football get the lion's share of the attention. After all, they have the biggest schools, the largest stadiums, and produce the most prospects — 299 out of 368 FBS signees from the Class of 2025 came from 6A or 5A.

But as far as a mix of all the things that make a high school football season great, it's hard to top Class 4A. There's plenty of star power; there's historic, ferocious rivalries; there's drama abound, and plenty of twists and turns to come.

The large schools are fun; the mid-size schools, though? That's box office.

So much so, in fact, that the reigning 4A Division I state champion made the gatefold cover of this magazine. Celina — fresh off its first title since 2007 — welcomes back the state's best quarterback in Bowe Bentley and the reigning 4A defensive player of the year in Luke Biagini. There are holes to fill for Bill Elliott and staff, but the pieces in place are enough to start the Bobcats atop the state rankings.

Out in Region I, it feels like we're careening toward a regional final rematch of wildly disparate pedigrees. Six-time state champion Stephenville looks poised for a return to the title stage, with a ferocious defense led by Kolton Dearth and Hudson Butchee. But they'll have to find a way past upstart Canyon West Plains, who knocked off the Yellowjackets last year and welcome back a whopping 17 starters, most notably quarterback Reid Macon.

Celina rules the roost in Region II, but the road to a repeat won't be smooth — eight teams start the year in the Top 25, more than any region. Frisco Panther Creek looks most dangerous to the champs, with blue-chippers Donovan Webb and Jalen Lott spearheading a wildly talented crew. And keep your eye on Sulphur Springs — Brandon Faircloth enters his third year with the Wildcats with the best team he's had there yet.

Region III starts where it finished last year, with state runner-up Kilgore. Some of the Bulldogs' star power has moved on, but quarterback Kayson Brooks leads a battle-tested group that should challenge for the crown again. That is, of course, if they can get by District 9-4A DII foes Tyler Chapel Hill, which must find new stars to emerge, and Lindale, which will be outstanding up front on both sides of the ball.

If you are confident in how Region IV will play out, let us know — because it feels like a wide-open race. La Vernia won the region last year, and run-

ning back Sean Garza gives them plenty of reason to think they'll do it again. But budding San Antonio Davenport and traditional powers Austin LBJ and Bay City could be nipping on the Bears' heels.

Moving on to Division II...well...Carthage. Scott Surratt's Bulldogs are coming off their 10th title in the last 17 seasons — they are, unequivocally, the Class 4A Texas high school football program of record. And with megastar running back KJ Edwards, budding quarterback Jett Surratt and menacing linebacker Daquives Beck back in the fold, there's little reason to think it's not their title to lose.

Region I had no shortage of drama, with Graham drilling Brock in District 3-4A DII play before Brock handed the Steers a hard-fought receipt in the playoffs. Those two, while hit hard by graduation, should be the class of the region again, though Glen Rose linebacker Ryder Ribitzki and Midland Greenwood quarterback Lincoln Madrid would beg to differ.

If anyone is going to stop Carthage from moving to an unthinkable 11-0 in state championship games under Scott Surratt, it's likely to be their longtime Region II nemesis Pleasant Grove. The Hawks' defense, led by defensive lineman Kedrid

Smith, will be among the best in the state, and the addition of quarterback Colt Yancey — an all-district pick at Whitewright whose father joined Josh Gibson's staff in the offseason — to an already loaded offense will make them the No. 1 contender to Carthage's belt. Region II feels like a two-horse race, but Sunnyvale and Gilmer loom on the periphery.

Nobody relishes being underrated quite like La Vega coach Don Hyde, who proved many people (including us) wrong when his Pirates ran to the state title game last year. Bad news, coach: we're onto you now, as La Vega looks poised for another Region III title thanks to receiver Jabarie Thornton and a defense led by MarQuae Willis. Their biggest challenges within the region look like Sealy, Bellville, or a resurgent West Orange-Stark.

Could Wimberley's stranglehold on Region IV finally be loosening? The expected graduation of quarterback Cody Stoeber and the surprise retirement of coach Doug Warren could open the door for teams like Cuero — with star quarterback Jaxxon Marie — and Sinton, which must reload its defense. For now, the nod goes to Wimberley, which may lean on its running game with Maverick Jacobs more this season.

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Sean GARZA

The La Vernia running back led all of Class 4A with 2,212 yards rushing last season, guiding the Bears to their first state semifinal in program history.

Photo by Megan Agüero

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A



Photo Credit: Darrell Gost

Bowe Bentley | **CELINA QB**



Photo Credit: Jeff Daulton

DaQuives Beck | **CARTHAGE LB**

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 4A? Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB



Photo Credit: Isaac Westbrook

Dallas Pinkston QB **COLEMAN OBY** ran for 1,658 yards and 23 touchdowns for the Vikings last season...and he's also a national-level lacrosse player.



Photo Credit: Christopher Miles

Fredericksburg WR **GRIFFIN BEARD** burst onto the scene as a sophomore for the Battlin' Billies last year, catching 63 passes for 909 yards and eight scores.

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 4A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

QB Bowe Bentley, Celina
RB KJ Edwards, Carthage
RB Sean Garza, La Vernia
WR Jabarie Thornton, Waco La Vega
WR Logan McCormick, Seminole
WR Jalen Lott, Frisco Panther Creek
OL Brandon Casas, Athens
OL Keegan Collins, West Plains
OL Clay Mitchell, Sinton
OL Vincent Johnson, Sulphur Springs
OL Will Kellerman, Wimberley
UTIL Damian Figueroa, CC Tulosos-Midway
K Lance Pate, Kennedale

Defense

DL Cam Christian, Kilgore
DL Isaiah Collins, Chapel Hill
DL Kolton Dearth, Stephenville
LB Luke Biagini, Celina
LB DaQuives Beck, Carthage
LB Hudson Butcher, Stephenville
LB Logan Woolard, Alvarado
DB Izaiah Cabrelas, Port Lavaca Calhoun
DB Amos Phillips, Gatesville
DB Donovan Webb, Frisco Panther Creek
DB Marquae Willis, Waco La Vega
UTIL Jamarion Vincent, Waco Connally
P Colt James, Palestine



Photo Credit: John Michael Abel

Adam Cummings | **CANYON WEST PLAINS**

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 4A, the top four teams in each district make the playoffs. They are then placed in their respective bracket, either Division I or Division II.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: Canyon West Plains over Stephenville
Region II: Celina over Frisco Panther Creek
Region III: Kilgore over Tyler Chapel Hill
Region IV: La Vernia over San Antonio Davenport

DIVISION II

Region I: Brock over Graham
Region II: Carthage over Sunnyvale
Region III: Waco La Vega over Bellville
Region IV: Wimberley over Cuero

STATE CHAMP: CELINA

With a blue-chip quarterback, leadership on a ferocious defense and pedigree, Celina realizes its golden hour.

STATE CHAMP: CARTHAGE

Scott Surratt is 10-0 in state championship games. If the Bulldogs manage to get back to AT&T Stadium, they'll get No. 11.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 10-4A DI

Come for Huffman Hargrave vs. LC-M for the district title; stay for the wild four-team scramble for the last two playoff spots.

DISTRICT 5-4A DII

This north Texas district was chaos last year, and we're picking a team that missed the playoffs (Sanger) to win it this year!

DISTRICT 16-4A DII

A four-team district, but the parity here is unmatched — three of the four squads went 2-1 in district play last season.

Class 4A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

PORT LAVACA CALHOUN

It's a new era for the Sandcrabs with Stephen Hrnir taking over; he inherits a loaded squad.

WEST COLUMBIA

After their former QB went No. 1 in the NFL Draft, the Roughnecks' Wing-T will continue to hum.

GODLEY

A full offseason under coach Danny Dudgeon will be huge, especially with explosive skill players.

DUMAS

Quarterback Colton Mills has a chance to become a household name this season.

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CLINT LIONS (734)

Coach: Rosvel Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 14/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Samuel Brown (5-8, 145, 4.5), RB Chris Rincon (5-9, 150, 4.5), QB Brandon Quezada (5-10, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Nick Lettunich (6-2, 255), RB Chris Brown (5-8, 145, 4.5).

2025 notes: Clint is the "last of a dying breed," offensively, as the Lions and veteran head coach Rosvel Martinez still hold true to their flexbone offensive attack. QB Quezada is back to operate the offense and has a capable returning RB in sophomore Samuel Brown, while getting senior RB Rincon back from injury will be a big boost. OL/DL Lettunich is the anchor for the Lions on both the offensive and defensive lines.

CLINT MOUNTAIN VIEW LOBOS (787)

Coach: DJ Check. Lettermen R/L: 15/26. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: S Gio Rodriguez (5-10, 175, 4.6), LB Matthew Nava (5-8, 185, 4.8), OL Isaac Valadez (6-1, 305), WR Ruben Castro (6-0, 150, 4.5), WR Myron Galindo (5-10, 175, 4.7), FS Andrew Palma (5-10, 170, 4.7), RB Esteban Garcia (5-9, 195, 4.5), ATH Ryan Cicero (5-8, 155, 4.5), QB Gerry Gandara (6-0, 185, 4.7), K Emiliano Rueda, OL/DL Angel Salgado.

2025 notes: Check enters his fourth season with a much younger team at MVHS as a good senior class has graduated. Unlike the last two years, defense may lead the way for the Lobos with the return of S Rodriguez (40 tackles, 5 INTs) and LB Nava (54 tackles, 2 sacks). WR Castro got a bit of varsity action as a freshman and will be the top target along with senior WR Galindo (15-291, 2 TDs receiving).

EL PASO AUSTIN PANTHERS (1,103)

Coach: Eric Pichardo. Lettermen R/L: 15/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/CB Andruw Andujo (5-11, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Ezequiel Cenicerros (5-10, 250), RB/LB Jeremiah Parrish (6-2, 250, 4.8), QB/DB Sean Rangel (5-6, 160, 4.8), RB/DB Salvador Durate IV (5-6, 140, 4.5), RB/LB Jacob Rodriguez (6-0, 215, 4.9), RB/DB Joel Castaneda (6-0, 180, 4.5), ATH Christian Leyva (5-6, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Roberto Flores (5-9, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Isaac Luna, OL/DL Noah Duran, QB/LB James Castro, TE/DE Carter Davis, TE/DT Jonathan Villalobos, K/P Uriel Paniagua, OL/DL Christian Apodaca, OL/DL Juan Cordova.

2025 notes: The Panthers rolled to a district title a year ago and there's plenty of firepower returning for a repeat run for Coach Pichardo's bunch. RB Duarte IV (1,610 yards, 11 TDs rushing) paces the Austin Pro-T offense and will run behind OL/DL Cenicerros, a three-year starter with plenty of versatility. WR/CB Andujo (13-342, 3 TDs receiving; 7 INTs) is a deep threat and a ball-hawk on defense.

EL PASO BOWIE BEARS (1,010)

Coach: Andy Vale. Lettermen R/L: 11/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-6/2-6 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Johan Camacho (6-3, 190), RB/CB Derek Montanez (5-11, 185), OL/DL Angel Torres (5-7, 190), LB Dominique Johnson (5-8, 170), DB Oscar Munoz (5-8, 160), RB/LB Joshua Estrada (5-7, 165), OL/DL Jude Munoz (5-10, 195), DB Damian Mendez (5-7, 160), RB/DB Pierre Abriego (5-6, 160), LB Cesar Corral, RB Jorge Escareno.

2025 notes: Vale says youth will be served this year for the Bears after a good senior group graduated. The good news for BHS is numbers in the program will be improved. TE/DL Camacho is among the most versatile players on the roster and will be utilized at multiple spots on both sides of the ball. RB/CB Montanez should see the bulk of the carries in Bowie's Wing-T offense and he'll also be key in the secondary.

EL PASO IRVIN ROCKETS (959.5)

Coach: Jonathan Elliott. Lettermen R/L: 17/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Jamal Rocha (6-2, 170, 4.8), QB Dallas Medina (6-0, 190), WR Michael Salazar (5-8, 155, 4.6), LB Julian Medina (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Angel Valenzuela (5-9, 180, 4.7), OL Eli Rivera (5-10, 215), QB D'Angelo Garcia (5-7, 140, 4.8), DL Kane Pittman (5-7, 185, 4.9), ATH Alex Gomez (5-11, 160, 4.8), WR Isaac Martinez, OL Jeremiah Noble.

2025 notes: The Rockets had their best season since 2018 in Elliott's first season. With 14 starters back, don't be surprised if Irvin returns to the playoffs. QB Medina (1,376 yards, 15 TDs passing) leads the offense, WRs Salazar (32-608, 8 TDs receiving) and Rocha (29-458, 5 TDs receiving) are both back as dynamic weapons on the outside. LBs Medina (126 tackles, 8 TFL) and Valenzuela (127 tackles, 7 TFL) are back to lead what should be an improved defense.

EL PASO RIVERSIDE RANGERS (1,012)

Coach: Daniel Chavez. Lettermen R/L: 15/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Carlos Rojas III (5-9, 180, 4.7), WR Izzy Garcia (6-0, 165, 4.7), OL Servando Avitia (6-2, 225, 4.9), DL Toasamoa Misioka (6-1, 210, 4.7), TE Sanzon Alba (6-0, 210, 4.8), OL Saumane Tiliiaia (6-2, 330), WR Joel Alaniz (5-10, 145, 4.6), RB Derek Armendarez (5-7, 160, 4.8), OL John Ramos, WR/DB Gabriel Garcia.

2025 notes: Riverside looks to climb back to the top of 1-4A Division I with eight starters back on both sides of the ball. QB Rojas III (1,247 yards, 23 TDs passing; 1,734 yards, 27 TDs rushing) stepped in at QB last year and was nothing short of sensational. DL Misioka is a four-year letterman and will be the leader of a defense that should be much improved. "We were a sophomore-heavy team a year ago, that experience should pay off," said Chavez.

EL PASO YSLETA INDIANS (1,311)

Coach: Joe Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 12/26. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Martin Castro, QB Rodrigo Martinez, WR/DB Armando Gutman, WR/FS Michael Jacquez, DE Jason Orozco, DT Johny Morales,

District 1-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Carlos Rojas III, El Paso Riverside

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

CB Andruw Andujo, El Paso Austin

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. El Paso Austin | 5. El Paso Irvin |
| 2. El Paso Riverside | 6. Clint Mountain View |
| 3. El Paso Ysleta | 7. El Paso Bowie |
| 4. Clint | 8. Fabens |
| | 9. San Elizario |

OL Carlos Nevarez, RB Daniel Torres, DE Mateo Villareal, WR/DB Richard Thomas.

2025 notes: Ysleta put together an eight-win season in its first year at the 4A level, but a large class of 26 seniors has graduated so the Indians will feature a lot of new faces in 2025. QB Martinez (1,892 yards, 27 TDs passing) and RB Castro (933 yards, 14 TDs rushing) are back to lead the offense. WR/FS Jacquez (41 tackles) and DE Orozco (42 tackles, 2 sacks) will be the key cogs for a very young defensive unit.

FABENS WILDCATS (615)

Coach: Jorge Levario. Lettermen R/L: 20/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 1-9/1-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Jesus Martinez-Jimenez (5-8, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Javier Hernandez Gonzalez (6-0, 160, 4.6), ATH Julio Martinez (5-6, 130, 4.7), OL/DL Zachary Dominguez (5-9, 315), RB/DL Joseph Nunez (5-7, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Jesus Chuca Rodriguez (5-10, 250), OL/DL Nathan Hernandez (5-8, 265), RB/LB Damien Cordero (5-9, 185, 4.8), WR Ismael Rodriguez-Porras, TE/DE Elijah Ortiz, WR/DB Andrew Ramirez, ATH Jose Sablan.

2025 notes: The Wildcats will lean on the talents of dynamic QB Martinez-Jimenez (1,069 yards, 11 TDs passing; 602 yards, 4 TDs rushing) to push them into possible playoff contention in 2025. Coach Levario says senior leadership will be key for his team that he says is, "small town tough." ATH Martinez (651 yards, 4 TDs total) was the 1-4A Division I Utility Player of the Year in 2024.

SAN ELIZARIO EAGLES (1,019)

Coach: Robert Herrera. Lettermen R/L: 17/12. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 1-9/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Nathan Rios (5-7, 150, 4.8), RB Javier Salais (5-6, 145, 4.6), WR Freddy Garcia (5-11, 165, 4.7), OL Matthew Lopez (5-8, 255), OL Dante Moreno (6-1, 190), OL Daniel Cortez (6-0, 280), RB Hector Holguin (5-9, 185), RB Daniel Ruiz (5-8, 140, 4.6), DL Austin Lumbraera, OL Joaquin Ramirez.

2025 notes: The Eagles and their flexbone offense tend to lean into the running game by default, and in 2025 they'll lean even more into that as Herrera welcomes back all five starters on the offensive line. QB Rios and RB Salais will be key as SEHS has to replace an all-state running back, while LB Holguin (46 tackles) returns to lead the San Elizario defense.



Bayler SCHILLING
WR/DB
Canyon



Colton MILLS
QB
Dumas



Kalub RAMIREZ
QB
Hereford



Reid MACON
QB
Canyon West Plains



Jaesean DEBOUSE
RB
Andrews



Riley HOWELL
TE/DL
Burnet



Ty JOHNSON
WR
Lampasas

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CANYON EAGLES (1,095)

Coach: Todd Winfrey. Letterman R/L: 21/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-5/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Bayler Schilling (6-2, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Zach Garcia (5-11, 255, 4.8), WR/DB Noah Sanchez (5-10, 140, 4.7), OL/DL Grant Neely (6-2, 270, 5.8), WR/DB Breccan Crockett (6-0, 160, 4.6), TE/DL Isaiah Amaya (6-1, 240, 4.9), TE/LB Levi Turner (5-11, 215, 4.9), WR/DB Jaylyn Keith (5-8, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Jace Forney (6-1, 280, 5.2), TE/LB Jake Doak, OL/DL Da'Keydron Ford, RB/LB Aiden Gutierrez, QB/DB Brox Hacker, RB/LB Aiden Martinez, WR/DB Joel Moore, OL/DL Brayden Vinson, OL/LB Kaz Abernethy.

2025 notes: Building on improvement, Canyon is going to be strong up front, which bodes well for a heavy run attack. OL/DL Garcia, Neely and TE Amaya give a foundation for an offense that is unfamiliar in the skill position. WR Schilling is a player to watch.

CANYON RANDALL RAIDERS (1,084)

Coach: Dan Sherwood. Letterman R/L: 30/23. Starters returning O/D: 4/8. 2024: 11-2 regional semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Drayven Patton, WR/DB Tayren Combs, WR/DB Conner Miller, RB/LB Mark Gallegos, TE/DL Garrett Splitt, QB Kaison Benton, OL/DL Isael Medina, WR/DB Phoenix Sherwood, WR/DB Kobe Baccas.

2025 notes: Coach Sherwood brought the program back to the Randall standard last season with a run to the third round of the playoffs. Entering his third season, the Raiders are officially a team to keep an eye on. QB Benton and WR Combs are a dangerous connection for an offensive machine. LB Patton is the captain of the defense.

CANYON WEST PLAINS WOLVES (1,162)

Coach: Adam Cummings. Letterman R/L: 41/13. Starters returning O/D: 10/7. 2024: 11-4 state semifinalist/5-0 in district.

Players to watch: QB Reid Macon (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Kane White-Tinsley (6-1, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Keegan Collins (6-6, 285, 5.2), RB/LB Slade Russell (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Boston Ladd (5-10, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Omar

Lopez (6-5, 280, 5.3), K Gipson Ngagy (6-1, 160, 4.7), FB/LB Cash Lofton (5-10, 190, 4.7), QB/RB/LB Bentley Chandler (5-9, 180, 4.6), WR Kaden Hooker, WR/DB Lawson Betancourt, FB/DL Brendt Nall, WR/LB Brycen Williams, OL/DL Keaton Cheyne, RB/LB Aiden Green, RB/LB Hudson Hawley, OL/DL Carter Jones.

2025 notes: There's no doubt that West Plains is reloading after a history-making season getting to the state semifinals in only its third year as a program. QB Macon, a four-year starter and the leader of the pack, is ready to put up more big numbers and impress college scouts. WR/DB White-Tinsley came into his own as a top skill player on both sides of the ball and OL Collins is a Division I prospect who is one of the best at his position.

DUMAS DEMONS (1,186)

Coach: Aaron Dunnam. Letterman R/L: 12/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Colton Mills (5-10, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Blake Robinson (6-2, 170, 4.7), RB Zbastian Jara (6-2, 200, 4.7), OL Gael Cardenas (6-2, 265, 5.4), DL Cody Austin (6-2, 210, 4.9), LB Shooter Coon (5-10, 185, 4.8), OL Aaron Venzor (6-3, 295, 5.4), K Christian Saldana (5-8, 155, 4.9), TE/LB Juan Carlos Corona.

2025 notes: QB Mills is a three-year starter just coming into his own with a top reputation in the Texas Panhandle after a sensational sophomore campaign. Surrounding Mills is WR Robinson on the outside and RB Jara, who has a very physical presence. DL Austin was strong off the edge with even bigger expectations this year, as is LB Coon (64 tackles).

HEREFORD WHITEFACES (1,174.5)

Coach: Adam Naron. Letterman R/L: 16/30. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kalub Ramirez (5-9, 175, 4.7), LB Eli Arredondo (5-11, 190, 4.8), WR/LB Brix Machen (6-3, 190, 4.7).

2025 notes: Hereford saw a huge senior class graduate. The bright spot is QB Ramirez returns

District 2-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Reid Macon, Canyon West Plains

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Drayven Patton, Canyon Randall

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Canyon West Plains
2. Canyon Randall
3. Dumas
4. Hereford
5. Canyon
6. Pampa

for his third year as the team's signal-caller. The Whitefaces are going to have to rebuild at running back and find new weapons on the outside. WR Machen is hoping to fill those shoes. On defense, LB Arredondo returns.

PAMPA HARVESTERS (1,056)

Coach: Floyd White. Letterman R/L: 25/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Max Neff (5-8, 185, 4.5), WR/DB Jose Alonzo (6-2, 175, 4.6), QB/LB Jarren Hill (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Tristian Bagwell (6-4, 265, 5.3), TE/LB Parker Webb (6-1, 205, 4.6), OL Sebastain Garduno (6-2, 275, 5.4), RB/DB Kiaro Flores, RB/LB Aiden Hammond (5-11, 175, 4.7), TE/LB Boston Botello, TE/LB Clayton Ward, OL/DL Robert Galvan, WR Gunner Thomas, WR/DB Jeryn Owens, RB/LB Caden Waldrip.

2025 notes: Completing a full offseason under White gives the second-year head coach optimism that the Harvesters will be a stronger team in 2025. RB Neff has all the dynamic capabilities of being one of the top players in West Texas. That takes the pressure off dual-threat QB Hill, so he can play his game and make plays. The LB unit should be very strong with Webb (85 tackles) and Botello returning to team up with Neff, who rarely leaves the field.

ANDREWS MUSTANGS (1,244)

Coach: Thomas Harvey. Letterman R/L: 13/29. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB JaeSean DeBouse (5-10, 185, 4.3), DB Raider Harvey (5-11, 175, 4.4), OL Jeremiah Azam (6-2, 215, 4.9), LB Sammy Saldivar (6-0, 210, 4.5), LB Kaden Mendoza (6-3, 210, 4.5), DT Kolby Glass (6-0, 245, 4.9). Top juniors: RB Beau Hudson (5-9, 160, 4.5), RB Jase Mendoza (6-1, 170, 4.6). Top sophomore: DB Tommy Evans.

Other prospects: QB Collin Kelley, TE Julian Luna, OL Ethan Roberts, LB Xavier Cruz, DT Jonas Gonzales, DE Isaac Ramirez, OL Gio Cardoza, DE Lane Thomas.

2025 notes: RB DeBouse is a playmaker that Harvey expects to play at the next level and will serve as Andrews' punter while also getting action on defense. DB Harvey is a three-year starter who excels at breaking up passes when the ball is in his coverage area. LB Saldivar brings physicality to the defense and will pair well with LB Mendoza, who is returning from an injury. DT Glass will anchor the defensive line.

BIG SPRING STEERS (1,045)

Coach: Cannon McWilliams. Letterman R/L: 20/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: DL RJ Gomez (5-11, 220, 5.0), OL Jestin Burchett (6-0, 250, 5.4), WR/DB Jacobi Lozano (5-10, 160, 4.7), WR Eithan Threats (6-1, 170, 4.6), WR/DB Lyndon Fraley (6-0, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Kaine Valenzuela (5-10, 140, 4.6). Top juniors: DL Adyn Tristan (6-0, 240, 5.2), RB Kaleb Hansen (6-0, 230, 5.0). Top sophomore: OL Isaac Perez (6-2, 255, 5.1).

Other prospects: QB Marcus Rios, RB Xander Garza, LB Mathew Sandoval, WR/DB Daniel Perez,

DE DJ Franks, WR/LB Toby Porter, LB Ezekiel Booth, OL Jonathan Calloway.

2025 notes: Big Spring is loaded with talent and returns nearly its entire team with numerous seniors expected to lead the way. DL Gomez (81 tackles, 10 sacks) is someone whose motor never stops, while OL Burchett is a dominant force on the offensive side of the football. WR/DB Lozano stretches the field offensively while constantly being in the middle of plays on defense. The Steers expect RB Garza to be an impact player, taking pressure off QB Rios.

PECOS EAGLES (818)

Coach: Tony Pallanez. Letterman R/L: 19/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/1-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Omar Salgado (5-9, 190, 5.0), OL Julian Mendoza (5-9, 225, 5.4), DE Juan Ornelas (6-0, 190, 5.0), DB Mateo Fernandez (6-1, 140, 4.9), DL Aron Madrid (5-10, 185, 5.0), DT Zayde Hinojz (6-0, 235, 5.1). Top juniors: LB Kai Salgado (6-0, 175, 4.9), OL Axel Montoya (6-1, 270, 5.4). Top sophomore: WR/DB Eli Ramirez (6-2, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB/LB Joel Aguilar, OL Matthew Chabarría, OL Keano Lira, DT Joeaaron Benavides, QB/DB Bubba Martinez, DE Elijah Cochran, LB Josh Carbajal, LB Heyden Martinez.

2025 notes: Pallanez was named a head coach for the second time in his career in late January and is taking over a squad that will be building all season for a playoff appearance. The former Saginaw defensive coordinator will run a 4-2-5 defense with the Eagles while operating out of a Power Spread on offense. Players like ATH Salgado, OL Mendoza and DE Ornelas bring strong work ethics to the program while DB Fernandez contributes with toughness and athleticism.

SAN ANGELO LAKE VIEW CHIEFS (1,056)

Coach: Hector Guevara. Letterman R/L: 28/14. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/0-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Christopher Alvizo (6-1, 185, 4.8), WR Brayton White (6-2, 185, 4.6), LB Isaac Monreal (5-10, 180, 4.8), DB Cristian Esparza (5-8, 150, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Conner Williams (6-2, 220, 5.0), DL Joshua Lemos (6-0, 200, 5.2). Top sophomore: DL Jose Vasquez (6-0, 190, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Christopher Rodela, WR Clavin Whitfield, DB Kentrell Johnson, OL Jay Roman, DB Roman Garcia, DL Raul Roman, LB Abram Rivera, RB Izaiah Rios.

2025 notes: Lake View returns nearly 70% of its team from last year and nearly all starters, which Guevara says will help the Chiefs this fall. QB Alvizo (2,106 yards, 29 TDs) has a big arm, and the Chiefs are expected to take the reins off the junior as he's improved his skills in the pocket and reading defenses. WR White gives him a speedy target that is a vertical threat in the passing game.

District 3-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB JaeSean DeBouse, Andrews

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL RJ Gomez, Big Spring

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Andrews
2. Big Spring
3. Pecos
4. San Angelo Lake View

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BROWNWOOD LIONS (960)

Coach: Jeryl Brixey. Lettermen R/L: 16/20. Starters returning O/D: 8/3. 2024: 6-5 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Carson Noe (6-2, 175, 4.6), RB Levi Pearson (5-11, 170, 4.7), QB Judson Coalson (6-4, 170, 4.7), TE Grant Gray (6-2, 195, 4.5), WR/RB Stone Ratliff (5-10, 185, 4.7), TE Aiden Driskill (6-4, 240, 5.3), DB Wyatt Wolf (5-11, 160, 4.7), DB Sirr Beam (5-11, 180, 4.8), DL Cristian Gray (6-1, 215, 4.7), RB Aaron Edmonds, OL Aiden Packheiser, LB Brinson Martin, DB Raven Prado.

2025 notes: The Lions look to get back to their winning ways under new coach Brixey, who will lean on eight returning offensive starters to set the tone. QB Coalson (1,653 passing yards, 353 rushing yards, 16 total TDs) leads the way. WR/LB Noe (473 receiving yards), RB Pearson (265 rushing yards), WR/RB Ratliff and TEs Gray and Driskill will be key. The defense returns LB Martin (145 tackles), DBs Wolf (100 tackles) and Prado (52 tackles).

BURNET BULLDOGS (1,014)

Coach: Ben Speer. Lettermen R/L: 28/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Riley Howell (6-1, 215, 4.7), RB/LB Joseph Coronado (6-0, 195, 4.7), OL Shane Ikonen (6-1, 230, 5.0), WR/DB Trevin Park (5-8, 185, 4.7), OL/DL Nate Torres (6-0, 205, 4.9), QB/LB Bryan Johnson (5-11, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Alex Perez (5-9, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Andres Hernandez (5-10, 235, 5.0), RB/LB Peyton Lopez, RB/LB Rodrigo Valdez, RB/LB Adler Goehring, OL/DL Traeton Nelson, K Marcos Camps-Huerta, QB Charles Edwards.

2025 Notes: The Bulldogs look to reward the community for their undying support with another playoff appearance. Getting there will take a team effort as new cogs adjust to bigger roles. Fortunately, RB Coronado (959 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and TE/DL Howell (239 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 25 tackles, 2.5 sacks) return as foundational players. RB/LB Lopez (355 yards rushing) also returns. LB Johnson (50 tackles) might play QB. WR/DB Park (50 tackles) returns to the defense.

CARTER-RIVERSIDE EAGLES (1,135)

Coach: David Lara. Lettermen R/L: 17/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 2-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Ryan Walters (6-1, 190), WR/S Keontae Stiff (6-0, 155, 4.6), WR Cole Hamilton (5-10, 150, 4.6), QB Jacob Galindo (5-8, 190), OL/DL Roberto Mateo (6-2, 280), OL/DL Joseph Rosales (6-4, 280), WR/LB Cedric Dawkins, OL Edgar Cantu, LB Ivan McNeer.

2025 notes: Lara is the Eagles third coach in three seasons in 2025, so gaining stability has been a challenge. The positive is plenty of experience returns. RB Walters is a hard-charging back, and WR/S Stiff stands tall on both sides of the ball.

DECATUR EAGLES (1,163)

Coach: Steve Huff. Lettermen R/L: 25/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jake Milligan (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR Chase Berg (6-4, 190, 4.6) LB Keaton Goode (6-0, 205, 4.6), RB Jamari Fletcher (5-9, 185, 4.5), DB Casen Cooper (6-2, 180, 4.6), LB Devin Moreno (6-0, 210, 4.6), RB Akilyz Rivera (5-8, 175, 4.6), OL Joe Finley (5-11, 240), S Colton Brazier (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR Caden Cobb, OL Caden Merrett, OL/LB Shane Elosegui, LB Wesley Morton, WR Jett Jenkins, OL Mason Dusek, OL Garrison Fay, LB Alex Pantoja, TE/LB Jackson Hogan, DB Josh Oyler.

2025 notes: After back-to-back trips to the state semifinals, the Eagles fell in an area round heartbreaker a year ago but Huff believes his team can again be in the mix.

DIAMOND HILL-JARVIS EAGLES (969)

Coach: Irwin Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 48/10. Starters returning O/D: 10/7. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: ATH Dominic Davis (6-0, 215), WR/DB Aaron Chavez (6-1, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Isaiah Lewis (5-10, 150, 4.6), QB Elijah Hernandez (5-10, 150, 4.7), OL/DE Ivan Rodriguez (6-0, 205), S Miliano Rios (5-9, 160, 4.8), RB/LB Lamon Ingram (5-8, 240, 4.9), LB CJ Munoz (5-8, 170), OL Brandon Rivera (5-10, 230), WR Isaac Santos, OL Yurem Ledezma, OL Cristian Chavez, RB Amonte Calloway, OL Damian

LAMPASAS BADGERS (1,102)

Coach: Troy Rogers. Lettermen R/L: 13/32. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Ty Johnson (6-3, 185), WR/ QB Bryson Roberts (6-2, 175), DB/LB Tate Langford (5-10, 165), RB KJ Reed (5-6, 175, 4.6), DB Aaron Everts, WR/DB Shawn Roberts, DB Corbin Kepler, DL/ TE Carter Toups, TE/DL Cayhill Isom, WR/DB Jaden McElwain.

2025 notes: The Badgers' long-term success depends on how quickly a revamped offensive line comes together in front of a new QB. Roberts (747 yards, 8 TDs receiving; 425 yards, 6 TDs passing) takes over behind center. WR Johnson (955 yards, 12 TDs receiving) will be a primary target. RB Reed (791 yards, 8 TDs rushing) is tough to tackle in space. DBs Langford, Everts and Kepler anchor a defense that welcomes back DL/Tes Toups and Isom.

MARBLE FALLS MUSTANGS (1,167.5)

Coach: Keri Timmerman. Lettermen R/L: 15/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Doak Timmerman (6-0, 205, 4.8), RB/DB Joaquin Aguilar (5-10, 175, 4.7), DL/ TE Kaleb Biefeldt (6-4, 225, 4.9), OL Raul Moran (5-11, 225, 5.4), LB/RB Arnulfo Salazar (5-10, 200, 4.9), RB/LB Branson Bunting (5-11, 190, 4.8), QB Crawford Mattox (6-0, 185, 4.7), QB/DB Atreyu Machacek, OL Thomas O'Leary, OL Madden Hernandez, WR/DB Jace Williams, OL Tyler Leverett, WR/DB Kaden Langbein, DB/LB Greg Lemon.

2025 notes: The Mustangs have fully transitioned from the Slot-T to a more open attack. RB/DB Aguilar (589 yards, 8 TDs rushing) can stretch the field. OLs Moran, O'Leary, Hernandez and Leverett are building blocks up front. RB/LB Timmerman will be a key on both sides of the ball, as will DE/TE Biefeldt (58 tackles, 7 sacks). LB/DB Lemon (113 tackles) also returns.

Velez Magana, OL/DL Anthony Gonzales.

2025 notes: The Eagles will turn to new coach Garcia to snap their 46-game losing streak. ATH Davis is an explosive playmaker at multiple positions and could get a look at QB, while WR/DBs Chavez and Lewis return on the outside.

EASTERN HILLS HIGHLANDERS (1,301)

Coach: Devvin Anderson. Lettermen R/L: 31/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Prince Hill (6-0, 175, 4.4), WR/DB Jamarion Hardemon (6-2, 170, 4.5), DL Jaden Gipson (6-2, 250, 4.8), LB Daniel Nyakundi (6-2, 235, 4.8), WR/DB Drayton McGilveary (6-1, 170, 4.6), ATH Derek Harris (5-11, 170, 4.5), OL/DL Jordan Murray (6-0, 255, 4.8), OL Thadeuss Harvy (6-3, 305), RB Christopher Johnson (5-10, 185, 4.6), OL Xylan Chaney, QB Josh Lowe, OL/DL Jeremiah Jordan, TE/ DE Sammy Collier, LB Brayden Bloodsoe, DB Tristen Moore, OL Derrick Blackwell.

2025 notes: Eastern Hills advanced back to the playoffs a year ago and now Anderson hopes the Highlanders are ready to challenge for a district crown.

SOUTHWEST RAIDERS (1,253)

Coach: Joseph Turner. Lettermen R/L: 23/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Bishop Zapata (6-3, 275, 4.9), WR/CB Anthony Boswell (5-9, 165, 4.6), RB/DE Jeremiah Hogg (6-2, 245, 4.8), QB/LB King Russell-Billingsley (6-2, 235, 4.8), WR/S Darnell King (5-11, 155, 4.6), OL/DT Charles Barrett (5-10, 275), WR/CB Moses Kako (6-1, 160, 4.6), WR/S Jayton Grady, DE Brandon Hall, CB Isiah King, WR/CB Nathan Young, RB/S Jacorrian McFarland.

2025 notes: The Raiders advanced to the playoffs in Turner's first season at the helm and could be even stronger with a full offseason and seven starters back on both sides of the ball.

SPRINGTOWN PORCUPINES (1,134)

Coach: Brian Hulett. Lettermen R/L: 19/26. Starters

District 4-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Judson Coalson, Brownwood

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Kolton Dearth, Stephenville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Stephenville
2. Lampasas
3. Brownwood
4. Burnet
5. Marble Falls

STEPHENVILLE YELLOW JACKETS (1,118)

Coach: Sterling Doty. Lettermen R/L: 22/26. Starters returning O/D: 5/10. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Kolton Dearth (6-3, 315, 5.2), LB Hudson Butchee (6-2, 220, 4.9), DL CJ Spellmeier (6-3, 205, 4.4), LB Caleb Taylor (6-2, 230, 4.8), DB Briar Floyd (5-10, 190, 4.9), DB/WR Brighton DeVivo (6-0, 200, 4.5), OL Cooper Doty (6-2, 275, 5.3), DL Nolan Griswold (6-1, 265, 5.4), LB/RB Carter VanZandt (6-0, 200, 4.7), TE Jayden Lujan, OL Aiden Collier, DB Willis Jackson, DL Jackson Richmond, WR Jhett Banuelos, WR Adan Jergins, DB Cash Kribbs, RB Zylar McClendon.

2025 notes: The Yellow Jackets hope to keep their recent successes going in their new stadium, and returning 10 starters from a stingy defense is a great starting point. LB Butchee (161 tackles) makes plays everywhere, and when he doesn't, DL Dearth (70 tackles, 10.5 sacks) usually does. DLs Griswold and Spellmeier (92 tackles, 9 sacks), LB Taylor (148 tackles) and DBs Floyd (80 tackles) and DeVivo (76 tackles) aren't far from the action either.

returning O/D: 3/7. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Kaine Hill (6-0, 170, 4.5), TE Karson Ferguson (6-2, 215, 4.8), LB Rome Ewell (6-3, 205, 4.8), WR/FS Riley Jackson (6-2, 185, 4.5), OL Aaron Street (6-3, 290), WR/CB Caden Rodgers (5-11, 165, 4.5), TE Hayden Murrell (6-3, 225, 4.9), CB Omar Hernandez (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB/DE Robert Lewis, OL Brett Cannon, DE Julio Hernandez, SS Devon Hair, WR Christian Mendoza, WR Pilot Grubis.

2025 notes: Springtown rolled to a district title a year ago and if it wants to exceed that mark, Hulett says his young offensive line will need to mature.

WESTERN HILLS COUGARS (976)

Coach: Blake Moilan. Lettermen R/L: 18/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Rodney Hill (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL Mauricio Martinez (6-1, 260), OL Anthony Rodriguez (6-0, 240), OL Derek Mosby (6-2, 300), TE Alex Richmond (6-2, 185, 4.8), RB Josh Oliver (5-8, 155, 4.6), DL D'Shawn Elder (6-1, 220, 4.9), WR/CB Cam'Ron Carter (6-3, 150, 4.6), QB Tyler Johnston (6-0, 150, 4.8), WR Justin Hurst, RB/LB Ashton Richardson, DT Jashaun Drakeford, WR O'Rylon Crockett.

2025 notes: The Cougars will lean on their veteran experience to try and pull themselves into the playoff picture. QB/DB Hill took over at QB the last four games of the season.

District 5-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jake Milligan, Decatur

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Prince Hill, Fort Worth Eastern Hills

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Decatur
2. Springtown
3. FW Eastern Hills
4. FW Southwest
5. FW Western Hills
6. FW Carter-Riverside
7. FW Diamond Hill-Jarvis

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ALVARADO INDIANS (1,202)

Coach: Casey Walraven. Lettermen R/L: 22/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 13-1 regional finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB DeMarcus Belton (5-11, 195, 4.5), LB Logan Woolard (6-1, 180, 4.7), S Lane Woolard (6-1, 175, 4.6), RB/LB DJ Clappitt (6-0, 180, 4.6), WR/LB Jordan Wright (6-2, 190, 4.6), RB/DB Schyler Dethorne (5-11, 170, 4.5), QB Kam Jenkins (6-4, 215, 4.8), WR/DB EJ Walton (6-2, 175, 4.6), OL Avery Harris (6-3, 265), WR/DB Abi Hamer, WR/DB Javion Johnson, OL/DL Daylan Ellison, OL/DL Anthony Frias, DB Jeylon Brown, OL/DL Colton Sullins, OL/DL Leland Hopson.

2025 notes: RB Belton is back and will be the focal point of the offense. The defense should be improved with the return of LB Woolard, WR/S Woolard and RB/LB Clappitt. Inexperience at QB and WR will be big question marks heading into 2025.

CARROLLTON RANCHVIEW WOLVES (959)

Coach: Richard Leonard. Lettermen R/L: 18/21. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Rushil Allada (6-0, 170, 4.8), WR JaiShawn Williams (6-3, 180, 4.6), DL Chris Williams (5-11, 280), CB Josiah Samuel (5-7, 155, 4.6), WR Devin Scott (5-11, 155, 4.5), CB Logan Thomas (5-9, 160, 4.5), WR Terrance Harris (6-0, 190, 4.6), ATH Jamari Williams (6-2, 165, 4.6).

2025 notes: QB Allada returns after tossing 24 touchdowns a year ago, and Leonard calls him an "innate leader." Look for WR Williams to take over as the featured receiver, while junior WR Harris is already a two-year starter.

FORT WORTH CASTLEBERRY LIONS (1,120)

Coach: Juan Silva. Lettermen R/L: 15/25. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Isaiah Ford (6-1, 210, 4.6), WR Bryan Cenicerros (6-0, 175, 4.9), OL Julian Chavez

AUBREY CHAPARRALS (1,039)

Coach: Keith Ivy. Lettermen R/L: 17/33. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 8-5 region semifinalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Cameron Haygood (5-11, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Elliott Kinney (6-3, 290), OL/DE Logan Gannon (6-2, 225, 4.7), OL/DL Stephan Coffman (6-3, 220, 4.7), RB/LB Jaxson Doramus (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Luke Hellman (6-0, 170, 4.6), TE/DE Blake Wheeler (6-0, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Parker Thurman (5-10, 175, 4.5), QB/DB Connor Murphy (6-0, 180, 4.6), RB/DL Devin McDaniel, RB/LB Brayden Williamson, OL Chris Retana, WR/DB Gavin O'Neal, OL/DL Charles Mulkey, OL/DL Petrus Van Rijn, QB/DB Will Storey, RB/DL Cole Travascio.

2025 notes: Aubrey made the move to Division I last year and, after a roller coaster regular season, got hot in the playoffs and pushed to the third round before being eliminated by Celina. Youth will be served as nearly all the skill talent has graduated, so expect a lot of new faces.

CELINA BOBCATS (1,177)

Coach: Bill Elliott. Lettermen R/L: 19/34. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 16-0 state champion/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Bowe Bentley (6-3, 205, 4.5), LB Luke Biagini (5-11, 215, 4.6), TE Wyatt Villareal (6-5, 220, 4.7), RB Logan Gutierrez (5-9, 190, 4.5), DT Cameron Lucas (6-3, 250, 4.7), DB Jacob Brown (5-8, 180, 4.5), SS Case Chelf, DB Maddox McCoy, DL Karter Lorick, DL Lawson Allen, LB Payton Anderson, LB Jack Jones, OL Ace Draper, OL Easton Clayton.

2025 notes: Celina rolled to a ninth state title in school history, but gone are 34 seniors. The good news is QB Bentley returns and is one of the top signal-callers in the country. RB Gutierrez and TE Villareal round out a dangerous attack. LB Biagini is one of 4A's best defenders.

LAKE DALLAS FALCONS (1,287)

Coach: Jason Young. Lettermen R/L: 20/35. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 5-5/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Thomas Adams (6-2, 190,

(6-2, 295), DL Lucas Aguillon (6-0, 255), DT Dominic Ruiz (5-10, 300), QB/DB David Duron (5-10, 130, 4.7), WR/DB Sebastian Huerta (5-6, 145, 4.7), WR/LB Anthony Duron (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL Israel Loya, WR/DB Juan Carrillo, DE Daniel Espinoza, RB/LB Jaydin Locks, WR/DB Nathaniel Martinez, WR/DB Cris Medina, QB/DB Ethan Chappell, OL/DL Carlos Duran.

2025 notes: Silva says the skill spots will be more athletic than in the past, headlined by the return of RB Ford. DL Aguillon returns to anchor what will be a young but fast defensive unit. The biggest concern is the offensive line, where four of five starters graduated.

KENNEDALE WILDCATS (1,006)

Coach: Richard Barrett. Lettermen R/L: 20/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/FS Trey Smith (6-0, 170, 4.6), RB/DB Riley Bingham (5-9, 160, 4.6), LB Gavin Godley (5-9, 150, 4.6), OL Ethan Webb (6-0, 215), OL Brady Cantu (6-1, 220), RB/LB Brian Cox (6-0, 200, 4.8), FS Landon Watkins (6-1, 170, 4.5), DT Barron Miranda (6-0, 260), OL Brayton Bennett (5-10, 250), DL Kevin Godfrey, WR Kaine Winans, CB Kyler Winans, OL Jaiden Rowe, TE/DL Beckett Ruck.

2025 notes: Barrett is the dean of DFW coaches as he enters his 25th season at the helm in Kennedale. QB/FS Smith led the basketball team to a state title in March and now he'll take the reins of the KHS Wing-T. RB/DB Bingham was a force on both sides of the ball. LB Godley was a first-team all-district selection.

LAKE WORTH BULLFROGS (961)

Coach: Todd Peterman. Lettermen R/L: 23/18. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 2-8/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Lucas Davis (5-11, 165, 4.8), RB Trey Ossenkop (6-0, 215, 4.6), OL/DL Christian Sature (6-3, 285), RB Gavin Tovar (5-9, 185, 4.7), WR/DB Nhoren Cloubou (6-2, 190, 4.7), RB/LB McTobia Pilot (5-10, 175, 4.7), WR/CB Maurice Hubbard (6-0,

4.7), DT Cameron Foote (6-0, 260), WR Nathan Sedore (6-3, 200, 4.5), WR/DB Ryan Young (6-1, 165, 4.5), WR Gavin Young, LB Nathan Cornist, OL Liam Brownfield, WR DJ Hicks, DT Davin Hopkins, WR Josh Moore, LB Tesla Shittu, DB Isaiah Morrison.

2025 notes: After a 4-0 start, the Falcons lost five of six district games to miss out on the playoffs a year ago. QB Adams gives the Falcons some serious firepower, while DT Foote will headline the defense.

NEVADA COMMUNITY BRAVES (1,188)

Coach: Adam Arteaga. Lettermen R/L: 30/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Cash Elston (6-2, 185), TE Colton Dupes (6-3, 210), OL Viko Santibanez (6-3, 280), DE Broderick Sublet (6-0, 230), S Chase Pettay (5-9, 160), DB Grayson Abbott (5-11, 185), LB Zy'Erik McClinton (5-9, 170), DE Isaac Foy, OL Jaxson Herbertson.

2025 notes: The Braves struggled a year ago in the state's toughest district at the 4A Division I level. Community expects to take a step forward with seven starters back on the defensive side of the ball, led by DE Sublet, S Pettay and DB Abbott.

PANTHER CREEK PANTHERS (1,166)

Coach: Clint Surratt. Lettermen R/L: 30/30. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/S Donovan Webb (6-0, 185, 4.5), WR/DB Jalen Lott (6-0, 175, 4.5), TE Parker Ord (6-4, 215, 4.6), QB Graylyn Fry (5-11, 175, 4.7), DE Liam Egert (6-1, 240), CB Elyon White (5-8, 155, 4.5), DE Justin Warren (5-11, 225), OL/DT Elisha Ellis (5-9, 270), S Cayden Green, LB Jason Wilson, LB Ashton Meldrum, OL Kobe Madril, WR Jeremiah Forde, WR Cody Surratt, S Josiah Turner, S Josh Lunnon.

2025 notes: Panther Creek again will be among 4A's most explosive teams on offense with the return of WR Lott and QB Fry. The big key for the offense will be development of a consistent running game.

PARIS WILDCATS (1,006)

Coach: Steven Hohenberger. Lettermen R/L: 29/18. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Keshawn Roberts (5-8, 155,

District 6-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB DeMarcus Belton, Alvarado

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

FS Trey Smith, Kennedale

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Alvarado
2. Kennedale
3. Lake Worth
4. Carrollton Ranchview
5. FW Castleberry
6. Waxahachie Life

170, 4.7), TE/DE Jaeden Garcia (6-0, 185, 4.9), WR/DB Eddie Page, OL/DL Kingston Davis, OL Nicholas Gonzalez Jr., RB Jakobe Smith.

2025 notes: Junior QB Davis will pilot the offense, while tough-running RB Ossenkop will pace the ground game. Junior RB/LB Pilot was impressive as a sophomore and is the key playmaker on defense.

WAXAHACHIE LIFE MUSTANGS (1,103)

Coach: Shawn Peach. Lettermen R/L: 27/8. Starters returning O/D: 10/9. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: S Aadon Shull (6-0, 175, 4.9), TE/LB Kaden Smith (5-8, 210, 4.9), RB/LB London Anderson (5-8, 170, 4.8), QB/S Gabe Livingston (5-10, 155, 4.7), WR/DB Gramm Jones (5-7, 145, 4.6), TE/DL Daylan Mathis, WR/DB BJ Freeman.

2025 notes: The Mustangs are under new leadership as Peach was promoted from offensive coordinator. S Shull and TE/LB Smith return to lead the defense. QB/S Livingston is expected to lead the offense, while RB/LB Anderson could see the bulk of the carries in the ground game.

4.5), WR Markeljric Finch (6-2, 175, 4.6), ATH Hudson Harper (6-2, 210, 4.7), WR/DB Aldren Gill (5-11, 185, 4.5), QB Tyler Heath (6-0, 170, 4.7), LB Chris Garcia (5-11, 215, 4.7), DE Jace Freeman (6-3, 255, 4.8), OL Ian Woodruff (6-0, 255), WR/DB Jakabrian Record, LB Cameron Floyd, RB Jaron Baugh, CB Davion Harrison, DT Jabraylen Hughes.

2025 notes: Paris fell just short of the playoffs in one of the state's toughest districts, but Hohenberger believes the Wildcats can get back in the postseason in 2025. WRs Roberts is a four-year starter, while WR Finch is a three-year starter.

SULPHUR SPRINGS WILDCATS (1,290)

Coach: Brandon Faircloth. Lettermen R/L: 30/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Vincent Johnson (6-5, 315), S Grayson Hardy (6-3, 190, 4.5), RB Jaxson Haire (6-0, 180, 4.5), DL Truth Holmes (6-4, 290), QB Deuce Timmons (6-1, 180, 4.5), DL Jackson Medlock (6-2, 230, 4.9), DB Deacon Carpenter, LB Alex King, LB Alex McCormick, OL Aidan McCarroll.

2025 notes: The Wildcats broke through last year and could be stronger in 2025 with 16 starters back. SSHS will be able to run the ball as well as anyone in the state with RB Haire leading the way. Timmons will move to QB this year.

District 7-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Bowe Bentley, Celina

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Luke Biagini, Celina

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Celina
2. Frisco Panther Creek
3. Sulphur Springs
4. Aubrey
5. Paris
6. Lake Dallas
7. Nevada Community

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A
HIGH SCHOOL

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

DALLAS CARTER COWBOYS (1,075)

Coach: Spencer Gilbert. Lettermen R/L: 24/21. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Damarion Boozer (6-0, 210, 4.7), WR Charles Anderson (5-10, 160, 4.5), LB Landon Traylor (6-1, 225, 4.7), ATH Dermonico Townsend (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Mack Tabor (6-2, 275), DB Trenton Livingston (5-9, 185, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL Cameron Lovett-Hinton (6-1, 270).

Other prospects: OL/DL Jeremiah Shaw, WR Jayden Lacy, DB Darreion Williams, QB Montraveon Smith.

2025 notes: The Cowboys fell just short of getting a district title a year ago, but a solid core returns that should keep Gilbert's squad among the favorites. RB Boozer (1,137 yards, 12 TDs rushing) will be the featured back and will operate behind a veteran offensive line. Junior WR Anderson has blazing speed on the outside and hauled in five touchdown receptions a year ago. LB Traylor (103 tackles, 9 sacks) earned sophomore of the year honors in 2024.

DALLAS CONRAD CHARGERS (1,266)

Coach: Josh Ragsdale. Lettermen R/L: 20/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-7 district.

Players to watch: DL Jaylon Brown (6-3, 350), DE Quentin Kirkland (6-5, 290), RB Quenton Gabriel (6-0, 200, 4.6), OL Isaac Bolanos (5-10, 240), QB Aden Byrdson (6-1, 170, 4.6), WR/DB Jonathan Anthony (6-0, 160, 4.5), ATH Axel Zelaya (5-7, 195, 4.6), RB/LB Donovan Wright (6-1, 190, 4.6), DB Kenan Evans (5-11, 155, 4.7), LB Abendego Dennis, OL Raul Aguilar, OL Edgar Fallad, OL Bruce Funes, WR Kaleb Escobar.

2025 notes: The Chargers struggled in their first season in 4A and even though some good skill players graduated, Ragsdale believes CHS will be better due to improvement in the trenches. DL Brown (42 tackles, 12 TFL, 3 sacks) had a strong season and is the anchor in the middle of the defense, while the potential of DE Kirkland (41 tackles, 8 TFL, 2 sacks) is "off the charts." RB Gabriel (464 yards, 8 TDs rushing) could have a big season operating behind a veteran offensive line.

DALLAS KIMBALL KNIGHTS (1,260)

Coach: Brandon "Bam" Harrison. Lettermen R/L: 20/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Deonte Washington (6-0, 175, 4.5), RB Charles McQuin (6-0, 180, 4.5), OL/DE Daleshun Deadmon (6-2, 260), DB Keilon Evans (6-2, 170, 4.5). Top junior: CB Damarion Petty (5-11, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: ATH Ace Aguilar (5-9, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: RB Rashawn Parker, LB Jamari Martin, LB Zack Barnes.

2025 notes: Kimball took home a district title a year ago and nearly got a first-round playoff win. Now, Harrison says an improved running game will keep the Knights in the mix. RB McQuin (299 yards, 2 TDs rushing) and dual-threat junior QB Washington (476 yards, 7 TDs passing; 150 yards, 2 TDs rushing)

are ready to lead full-time. DB Evans is a rangy player who will continue Kimball's tradition of producing playmakers in the secondary.

DALLAS LINCOLN TIGERS (665)

Coach: Randall Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 30/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-5/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jarmon Trotter Jr. (6-0, 200, 4.7), QB/LB Justin Hampton (6-0, 210, 4.8), RB/DB Marcus Hampton (5-10, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Talan Beachum (6-2, 185, 4.6), LB Dominic Johnson (6-0, 230, 4.7). Top juniors: WR London Manning (6-1, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Kaiden Scott (5-11, 225). Top sophomore: QB/S My'Kel Reagor (6-1, 170, 4.7). Other prospect: WR/CB Anthony Phillips.

2025 notes: After just missing out on the playoffs a year ago, the Tigers will look to kick the door in with 30 returning lettermen and 15 starters back. RB/LB Trotter Jr. (164 tackles, 16 TFL, 5 sacks, 1 INT) is an absolute monster and the unquestioned defensive leader as a three-year starter. QB/LB Hampton (308 yards, 4 TDs passing; 294 yards, 5 TDs rushing) played in just six games a year ago, but showed plenty of promise.

DALLAS PINKSTON VIKINGS (1,235)

Coach: Derek Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 18/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Coleman Oby (6-4, 215), RB Jack Williams (6-0, 205), OL Kendrick Harris (6-4, 285), OL Luis Carbajal (5-10, 275), ATH De'Asion Marshall (5-9, 165), ATH Earrique Walker-Mike (6-0, 175).

2025 notes: The Vikings were able to get into the playoffs a year ago, but Lewis says replacing graduation losses in the trenches will be the key to 2025. QB Oby is a star lacrosse player and a handful to bring down in the run game after tallying over 1,700 yards on the ground. He'll team with RB Williams to give the Vikings a pair of 1,000 yard rushers back. The defense brings back plenty of veteran experience, as well.

DALLAS ROOSEVELT MUSTANGS (689)

Coach: Cassius Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 19/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/5. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jayden Phillips (6-1, 200, 4.5), RB/LB Desric Thomas (5-9, 205, 4.6), DT Bryson Rogers (6-1, 260), ATH RiMaria Thompson (5-9, 170, 4.5), CB Eric Harris Jr. (6-2, 180, 4.6), K/P Enrique Bonilla (5-11, 140). Top juniors: OL JyWanza Wahi (6-3, 260), TE Bryan Bedolla (5-11, 190). Top sophomore: DB Michael Littleton (5-7, 160).

Other prospects: LB Israel Contreras, WR Braylon Merchant, WR Lonnie Mitchell, DB Jeremi Cuin, OL/DL Khamani Carr.

2025 notes: After going winless in 2022 and 2023, Roosevelt made strides last year; now they'll turn to new coach Johnson to get them back to the playoffs. ATH Phillips (10-308, 3 TDs receiving; 21 tackles, 2 INTs) is a dynamic threat on both sides of the ball,

District 8-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Tamajae McMillon, Wilmer-Hutchins

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Landon Traylor, Dallas Carter

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Dallas Kimball | 5. North Dallas |
| 2. Dallas Carter | 6. Dallas Pinkston |
| 3. Wilmer-Hutchins | 7. Dallas Roosevelt |
| 4. Dallas Lincoln | 8. Dallas Conrad |

while RB/LB Thomas (161 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and ATH Thompson (289 yards, 3 TDs rushing) are top ball carriers. DT Rogers (41 tackles, 2 TFL) is an anchor in the middle of the defense.

NORTH DALLAS BULLDOGS (1,279)

Coach: Carlos Perez. Lettermen R/L: 24/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/3-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Michael Paul (5-8, 170, 4.6), DE Eddy Parker (6-2, 225, 4.9), LB Kendall Shelly (5-10, 205, 4.8), S Dekorian Collins (5-10, 175, 4.5), OL Fia Reinhart (6-4, 355), TE/DE Elijah Hampton (6-1, 220, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Joel Solis (5-11, 215, 4.9), TE/DE Zion Blackshire (6-3, 225, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR Jaylan Bellard (5-10, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR Jayvian Dunn, OL Dominik Fuentes, RB Titus Reese, LB Francisco Murphy, DB Ephriam Reed.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs fell just short of a playoff appearance a year ago, and Perez believes his team's improved athleticism will be key to grabbing one of those top four spots. WR Paul (35-520, 2 TDs receiving) impressed as a sophomore and will be the primary weapon for the offense. DE Parker (65 tackles, 10 TFL, 6 sacks) and LB Shelly (41 tackles, 4 TFL, 3 sacks, 2 INTs) are both very athletic and can fly around and make plays.

WILMER-HUTCHINS EAGLES (954)

Coach: Elzie Barnett. Lettermen R/L: 19/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Tamajae McMillon (6-2, 180, 4.6), ATH Jaheim Cummings (5-10, 190, 4.5), WR/DB Ric'Keon Washington (5-10, 170, 4.5), DB Ja'quavion Gaston (6-0, 170, 4.5), WR/CB Cameron Buster (6-2, 180, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Eagles had a lot of new faces a year ago, but found a way to once again secure a playoff appearance. This year, Barnett's squad comes in with plenty of experience on offense with the return of QB McMillon (2,026 yards, 14 TDs passing) and ATH Cummings (1,607 all-purpose yards, 15 TDs). The defense will rely on new faces, but Barnett says DB Gaston (56 tackles, 3 INTs) "can do it all."

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A



Charles ANDERSON
Dallas Carter wide receiver

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

HENDERSON LIONS (982.5)

Coach: Ricky Meeks. Lettermen R/L: 25/20. Starters returning: 5/4. 2024: 6-4/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB MarMar Coleman (6-1, 190, 4.5), RB Jestin Starling (5-5, 170, 4.7). Other prospects: QB Vince Howard.

2025 notes: New coach Meeks hopes to bring back some magic for the Lions. His first coaching job was as an assistant under his dad on a 2010 state title team. He inherits solid offensive weapons in WR Coleman (544 yards, 4 TDs receiving), RB Starling (1,377 yards, 22 TDs rushing) and QB Howard (1,226 yards, 5 TDs passing), but key losses on the OL and on defense due to graduation must be addressed quickly.

KILGORE BULLDOGS (1,168)

Coach: Clint Fuller. Lettermen R/L: 29/13. Starters returning: 8/5. 2024: 13-3 state finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Kayson Brooks (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR/LB LaKeyleone Graves (6-2, 190, 4.5), DL Cameron Christian (6-0, 290, 4.9), DB Ja'Kalen Sheffield (5-10, 180, 4.4), OL Hunter Whipkey (6-4, 300, 5.2), RB/LB Isaiah Watters (5-11, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/RB TK White (5-10, 160, 4.4), RB Rayshawn Williams (5-9, 165, 4.5).

2025 notes: Getting valuable experience for young players early will be the key for another deep playoff run for the Bulldogs. Veteran, record-setting QB Brooks (3,673 yards, 43 TDs passing; 345 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense, which will also feature WR/LB Graves (48-987 yards, 14 TDs receiving; 136 tackles, 2 INTs) and OL Whipkey, who gave up just one sack a year ago. Sheffield (131 tackles, 7 INTs) is a shutdown defender.

LINDALE EAGLES (1,286)

Coach: Chris Cochran. Lettermen R/L: 28/20. Starters returning: 8/5. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DL Kaleb Walker (6-3, 255, 4.9), OL Cameron Griffin (5-11, 285, 5.5), RB A'Million Johnson (5-11, 178, 4.6), LB/WR Jackson Parker (5-9, 175, 4.7), QB David Lindig (5-9, 160, 4.6), LB/TE Asher Medders (6-1, 185, 4.8). Top juniors: TE/LB Reed Carnathan (6-3, 192, 4.8), DL Cam Beason (6-0, 290, 5.3). Top sophomore: TE/DL Jackson Price (6-3, 225, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Kaden Fowler, DB/QB Jackson Legrow, WR/RB Hank Thurman, DB/WR JB Ray, LB/TE Maddox Gauntt, DB Andre Foster, RB/LB Hayden Gateley, OL/DL Eli Holley.

2025 notes: The Eagles should be in good shape offensively with the return of QB Lindig (1,579 yards, 12 TDs passing) and RB Johnson (771 yards, 9 TDs rushing), but veteran head coach Cochran is beyond excited about what could be one of the top defensive fronts in the state. Walker (89 tackles, 20 TFL, 10 sacks) is a problem, and Beason (27 tackles, 2 sacks) is a motor guy who simply loves the game.

LONGVIEW PINE TREE PIRATES (1,256.5)

Coach: Jason Bachman. Lettermen R/L: 21/20. Starters returning: 2/3. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: DB/WR Ashton Valentine (5-8, 155), DL David Lively (6-2, 255), DB/WR Boston Johnson (6-0, 150), LB/RB Dalan Montgomery (5-9, 160), RB/DB Roger Attaway (5-9, 150), DB Anthony Anderson (5-9, 165). Top juniors: DB/WR Jayden Survia (6-1, 155), TE Chris Nickoles (5-11, 204). Top sophomore: QB Colton Croft (6-3, 200).

Other prospects: QB Parker Johnson, RB Ja'Karius Timmons, DB Desmond Williams, FB Kayden Bennett, OL Jacob Graugnard, OL Jeremiah Allison.

2025 notes: The Pirates had things rolling before moving down in classification, and took it to another level last season. Graduation hit hard, but enough talent returns to keep the momentum going. Lively (24 tackles) had 19 QB pressures a year ago, and should be a force on the DL. Attaway (241 yards, 3 TDs rushing) should get plenty of touches this

District 9-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kayson Brooks, Kilgore

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Isaiah Collins, Tyler Chapel Hill

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Kilgore | 5. Henderson |
| 2. Tyler Chapel Hill | 6. Palestine |
| 3. Lindale | 7. Mabank |
| 4. Longview Pine Tree | |

season, and QB Croft (303 yards, 3 TDs) showed promise in limited action last year.

MABANK PANTHERS (1,148.5)

Coach: Shawn Copeland. Lettermen R/L: 8/23. Starters returning: 3/3. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Gavin Foote, QB Jaxon Copeland, WR Maddex McCrossen, WR Wayne Langford, DL Ray Brager, OL/DL Noah Spencer.

Other prospects: OL/DL Boston Hand, OL/DL Cooper Cline, LB Cayson Schrier, DL Christian Torres.

2025 notes: The Panthers took their lumps a year ago, but new coach Copeland likes the experience he has returning on the offensive line. He believes his team will compete for four quarters and will be fine once the QB position is settled and the players adjust to a new system. Spencer, Hand and Cline are all veteran holdovers up front for the Panthers, and Foote, McCrossen and Langford are potential pass-catching threats.

PALESTINE WILDCATS (1,017.5)

Coach: James Reyes. Lettermen R/L: 24/9. Starters returning: 8/7. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: DB/WR S'Vioarean Martin (6-3, 190, 4.5), RB Julius Walker (6-1, 185, 4.6), DL Cason Applewhite (6-3, 230, 4.7), QB/TE Rohyn Price (6-1, 215, 4.8), QB/DB Ashton Cook (5-10, 175, 4.6), DL/OL Ronnie Williams (5-8, 250, 5.0). Top juniors: Emiliano Gonzalez (6-3, 290, 5.1), OL Akwasi Danso (6-2, 280, 5.3). Top sophomore: QB/WR London Brown (6-1, 185).

Other prospects: WR/DB Cameron Jones, DB/WR Kowyn Thomason, OL/DL Tyson Shead, P/K Colt James, WR/DB Don Brooks, LB Jeremiah Carr, DL Ethan Thomas, RB/DB Braylon Beckworth.

2025 notes: Youth and depth are still concerns for a team that found the win column just once a year ago, but second-year coach Reyes believes a year in the system will help get the program going back in the right direction. Count on big, speedy DB/WR Martin (30 tackles; 18-229 yards, 2 TDs receiving) to do special things after blocking nine kicks and creating major damage everywhere in just six games last season.

TYLER CHAPEL HILL BULLDOGS (1,048)

Coach: Jeff Riordan. Lettermen R/L: 26/16. Starters returning: 6/10. 2024: 10-4 region finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Malik Gee (6-3, 205, 4.7), WR Damarcon Blaylock (5-8, 155, 4.4), OL Greg Mayfield (6-4, 255, 4.7), DL Isaiah Collins (6-0, 275, 4.9), DB Josh Casteneda (6-1, 185, 4.5), DB Timontrae Jenkins (6-0, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Amari McCuin (6-3, 270, 5.0), WR Malik Brown (6-4, 170, 4.4). Top sophomore: QB Ja'Kaivian Snow (5-10, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL Henry Thirkhill, DL Dallas Gipson, DL Kaeden Franklin, DB Ke'ion Green, RB Lemuel Stinson Jr, DB Kellan Banks, DB/OL Peira Allen, RB Cazden Holton.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs stocked college rosters with talent that played in 20 playoff games the past four seasons, but plenty of weapons return to keep them in the hunt. QB Gee (1,228 yards, 13 TDs passing; 520 yards, 7 TDs rushing) started seven games in 2024 and got better each week. Collins (118 tackles, 8 TFL, 4 sacks) squats 620 pounds and benches 400, and Casteneda (67 tackles) is physical and always around the ball.



**Doak
TIMMERMAN**
LB/RB
Marble Falls



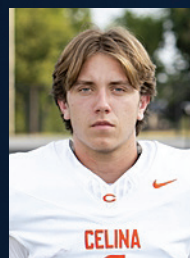
**Kolton
DEARTH**
DL
Stephenville



**Isaiah
FORD**
RB
Castleberry



**Cameron
HAYGOOD**
RB/LB
Aubrey



**Bowe
BENTLEY**
QB
Celina



**Tamajae
MCMILLION**
QB
Wilmer-Hutchins



**Kaleb
WALKER**
DL
Lindale



**Ashton
VALENTINE**
DB/WR
Pine Tree

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRIDGE CITY CARDINALS (941)

Coach: Josh Smalley. Lettermen R/L: 25/25. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Ashton Sumrall (5-10, 200, 4.6), WR Abraham Munguia (5-8, 165, 4.5), LB Bryce Breeden (6-2, 210, 4.6), SS Ethan Hernandez (5-11, 170, 4.6), WR Hunter Ford (5-9, 155, 4.6), DE Koby Dean (6-1, 230, 4.8), LB Keagan Trahan (6-1, 220, 4.8), DL Caleb Heraldez (6-0, 250, 4.9), LB Braxton Lynam, FS John Smart, CB Carson Saucedo, LB Aiden Mancos, OL Jonah McElroy, OL Zep Sullivan, OL Brad Havard, CB Kolby LeBlanc.

2025 notes: With a strong core back, BCHS is eyeing a run at the district title in the fall. RB Sumrall (1,367 yards, 13 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense, while WR Munguia (40-630, 7 TDs receiving) is a reliable target on the outside. The big question mark will be who takes over at QB to lead the spread offense? LB Breeden (103 tackles, 19 TFL, 4 sacks) and SS Hernandez (83 tackles, 4 TFL, 4 INTs) are pillars of what looks to be an outstanding defense.

HARDIN-JEFFERSON HAWKS (782)

Coach: Zach Bass. Lettermen R/L: 30/19. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Hayden Henry (6-4, 260), ATH D'Corian Warren (5-10, 175, 4.6), RB J'Roy Simon (5-9, 200, 4.7), RB Drayton Tunley (5-7, 175, 4.6), LB Blake Walker (5-10, 200, 4.9), RB Eric Pitre (5-11, 180, 4.6), RB/LB Davion Levine, TE/DL Ty Pearce, OL Christian Chatlin, DB Christian Williams, ATH Judah Wheaton.

2025 notes: ATH Warren (83 tackles, 1 INT) scored three touchdowns on defense a year ago and will see time on offense at either QB or WR. OL Henry is a three-year starter capable of playing all five positions on the offensive line. Bass says RB Simon (549 yards, 8 TDs rushing) is the most improved player in the program.

HUFFMAN HARGRAVE FALCONS (1,164)

Coach: Joey Buchta. Lettermen R/L: 22/16. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Nolan Cook (5-10, 175, 4.5), LB Ryder Miller (5-10, 200, 4.8), DT Jake Tinnin (6-1, 215, 4.9), RB/S Drayden Bacon (5-11, 190, 4.5), WR/S Bryce Nixon (5-10, 180, 4.6), OL Justin Kruger (6-1, 250), DB Wally Hallum (5-10, 175, 4.6), OL Kaleb Smith (6-3, 250), WR/DB Dailen Bacon (6-1, 160, 4.6), OL Corbin Broussard, OL Cash Jones, LB Christian Erb, LB Hunter Navarro, LB Dylan Martin, WR/DB Maurice Clark, LB Eddie Gonzales.

2025 notes: The Falcons posted nine wins a year ago, but they fell in the first round of the playoffs. QB Cook (1,911 yards, 26 TDs passing; 654 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is back to lead what should be a dynamic offense. LB Miller (134 tackles, 10 TFL, 4 sacks, 1 INT) will lead the defense, along with two-way stalwart WR/S Nixon (62 tackles, 3 INTs, 185 yards, 3 TDs receiving).

LIBERTY PANTHERS (739)

Coach: Kedrick Harrison. Lettermen R/L: 15/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 2-8/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Frankie Marez (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Jackson Harris (6-3, 300), OL Carlos Rubio (5-11, 265), RB/LB Logan Fowler (5-9, 175, 4.9), DE Cade Carter (6-0, 220), K/P Diego Diaz (6-0, 220), WR/DB Ryan Hessler (5-10, 160, 4.8), WR/DB Devorian Bradford (5-9, 160, 4.7), RB/DB La'Damyion Wilson (5-7, 175, 4.6), DL Noah Aguilar, WR/DB Tony Ceja, S Connor Schultz, QB/LB Braiden Darter, RB/LB Jayden Holmes, S Pepper Dubose, WR/DB Connor Giese, WR/DB Cameron Harper.

2025 notes: Harrison believes his squad is ready for improvement after winning just two games in his head coaching debut. QB Marez (711 yards, 6 TDs passing; 828 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is back to pilot the offense and with a year in the offense under his belt, he should see improved production. OLs Harris and Rubio are the anchors up front, while DE Carter is a dangerous pass rusher off the edge.

LITTLE CYP-MAURICEVILLE BEARS (1,015)

Coach: Eric Peevey. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/CB Braylon Lewis (6-0, 180, 4.5), WR/CB Khayden Reed (6-2, 195, 4.5), OL/DE Marek Lloyd (6-4, 255), RB/CB J'Lynn Morris (5-9, 185, 4.5), TE/DE Parker Freeman (6-2, 225, 4.8), OL AJ Graham (6-3, 285), WR/CB Jackson Struwe (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/FS Christian Carrillo (5-9, 185, 4.6), OL Bryce Lange (6-0, 245), OL/DL Isiah Watzlavik, DL Ian Loncon, LB Dystan Payne, OL/DL Ronald Garcia, LB Sam Winn, TE/LB Brycen Chargois, TE/LB Dreyden Cook, OL Ashton White.

2025 notes: After an unbeaten run through district a year ago, LCM will be looking to repeat with one of the top players in the Golden Triangle, QB/DB Lewis (1,270 yards, 11 TDs passing; 875 yards, 9 TDs rushing), leading the way. WR/CB Reed (34-756, 5 TDs receiving; 42 tackles, 1 INT) is an athletic, physical outside threat who will also contribute on defense. OL/DE Lloyd, a first-team all-district pick, is back and is relentless.

LIVINGSTON LIONS (1,157)

Coach: Tucker Carter. Lettermen R/L: 16/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 0-10/0-7 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Tyler Soza (5-9, 180), TE/DL Isaiah Frank (6-1, 215), TE/DL Zayden Martin (6-2, 200), OL/DL Roman Ontiveros (5-10, 280), ATH Brayden Carr (5-8, 160), OL/DL Samuel Champagne (6-0, 245), OL/DL Ty Thomas (6-1, 270).

2025 notes: Former Whitehouse OC Tucker Carter looks to inject energy into a Livingston program that went winless a year ago. The good news is the Lions had a JV that was 8-2, so expect a lot of new faces to contribute, especially at the skill spots. The trenches will be a strength with the return of TE/DL Frank, TE/DL Martin and OL/DL Ontiveros. Another question

District 10-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Nolan Cook, Huffman Hargrave

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Marek Lloyd, Little Cypress-Mauriceville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Huffman Hargrave | 5. Lumberton |
| 2. L-CM | 6. Hardin-Jefferson |
| 3. Bridge City | 7. Livingston |
| 4. Vidor | 8. Liberty |

for Livingston will be adapting to the spread offense after running the Wing-T.

LUMBERTON RAIDERS (1,242)

Coach: Chase McDonald. Lettermen R/L: 28/17. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 3-7/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Chase Williams (5-9, 175), OL Khale Martin (6-3, 265), SS Gage Grimmer (5-11, 180), DE Alex Gilmore (5-10, 225), LB Luke Burkhalter (6-1, 190), TE Mason Cline (5-11, 185), OL Wyatt Millican (6-2, 265), QB Nolan Mitchell (6-0, 185), QB Beau Breeden (5-11, 185), OL Justin Marchuk, WR Carson Hendon, WR Casey Fuselier, DL Jeremiah Kittrell, ATH Will Wright, K Luke Cody.

2025 notes: The Raiders struggled in Year 1 under McDonald, but expect improvement in 2025. RB Williams (634 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and QB Mitchell (679 yards, 6 TDs passing) are both back to guide the offense. SS Grimmer (94 tackles) is a force in the secondary. McDonald says a lack of size up front on both sides of the ball is his biggest concern heading into the fall.

VIDOR PIRATES (1,258)

Coach: Dwayne DuBois. Lettermen R/L: 21/17. Starters returning O/D: 3/8. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Peyton McLeod (6-0, 205, 4.9), RB/LB Kason Jones (5-11, 190, 4.7), RB Landon Jones (5-6, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Owen Stephenson (6-0, 285), RB/DB Jett Brucia (6-0, 170, 4.7), LB Hiram Huish (6-1, 190, 4.9), TE/DE Brody Stankovich (6-0, 205), DB Layden Sanders (5-9, 150, 4.7), RB/DB Kolt Holden (5-11, 175, 4.7), QB/DB Rylan Chesser, RB/LB Bryce Collins, OL Turner Connor, RB/LB Ethan Copeland, FS Shay Stacey, RB/LB Thomas Mondragon, OL/DL Logan Pope, OL/DL Maddox Bingham.

2025 notes: LB McLeod (48 tackles, 2 sacks) missed time early in the year, but returned late and made an impact. RB/LB Jones (76 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 INT) had a big junior season and could see time on offense. RB Jones (646 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is a quick back with good vision and will be the featured back in the Slot-T offense.



Nolan **COOK**
Huffman Hargrave quarterback

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

FURR BRAHMAS (1,029)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 6/19. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Nick Harris (5-11, 165, 4.6), RB/LB JD Conway (5-8, 185, 4.7), LB Hector Torres (5-9, 175, 4.7), OL Kevin Salinas (6-0, 265), OL Alexander Escobar (5-10, 245), RB/DB Darran Williams (5-7, 145, 4.6).

2025 notes: For the first time in more than two decades, the Brahmas will have a new coach as Cornell Gray joined North Shore's staff. Whoever takes over will inherit a team that's extremely young — just six lettermen return. QB Harris (1,086 yards, 15 TDs passing; 554 yards, 10 TDs rushing) will be the leader of the team, while junior RB/LB Conway (38 tackles) will be the leader of the defense along with sophomore LB Torres (16 tackles, 4 sacks), who impressed as a freshman.

KASHMERE RAMS (644)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 2-8/2-6 district.

Players to watch: DB Chase Robertson (6-2, 165, 4.7), S Kevin Joe (5-8, 175, 4.7). Top junior: LB Jordan Berry (6-1, 175, 4.7).

2025 notes: There will be a lot of new faces for the Rams in 2025, as they'll have a new head coach and must replace a large senior class as just four total starters return. The secondary will be a strength as DB Robertson and S Joe return. Robertson, with his size, has a lot of versatility and can play anywhere in the secondary. There's lots of buzz around LB Berry, who put together a strong sophomore season.

NORTH FOREST BULLDOGS (945)

Coach: Clifton Terrell. Lettermen R/L: 14/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/4-4 district.

Players to watch: OL DaAnthony Robinson (6-3, 270), QB Landon Robertson (5-10, 165, 4.8), LB Darrius Garrett (5-8, 160, 4.8), OL Jakolbie Neal (6-3, 270), WR Lashun Gray (5-10, 150, 4.7), CB Daveon Perkins (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top junior: CB Brandon Evans (5-7, 145, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Bulldogs hope to get back to playoff contention in Houston ISD's 4A Division I district and with seven starters back on both sides of the ball. Terrell believes his team will be stronger. QB Robertson (1,844 yards, 16 TDs passing; 344 yards, 5 TDs rushing) is back after earning first-team all-district honors a year ago. He'll work behind an OL anchored by Robinson, who is a two-time all-district pick. LB Garrett led the team in tackles as a sophomore and will be the leader of the defense.

NORTHSIDE PANTHERS (1,157)

Coach: Mike Porter. Lettermen R/L: 20/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 3-7/2-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Jesus Delosreyes (6-1, 215), OL Aljah Bevell (5-10, 250), OL/DL Avant Fernandez (6-0, 230), LB Elijah Trejo (5-9, 185). Top junior: RB Jorge Lobo (5-8, 165). Top sophomore: RB Maurice Gross (5-10, 160).

2025 notes: The Panthers struggled a year ago in their first season as a 4A program, but long-

time head coach Mike Porter believes NHS will be improved with 20 lettermen and 17 starters back. QB Delosreyes leads Northside's multiple offense, operating behind OL Bevell, who is the anchor up front. Junior RB Lobo and sophomore RB Goss are both capable weapons out of the backfield. LB Trejo and two-way OL/DL Fernandez are the leaders of a veteran defensive unit.

SCARBOROUGH SPARTANS (729)

Coach: Allen Singleton. Lettermen R/L: 12/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 0-10/0-8 district.

Players to watch: QB Michael Alba (5-11, 210), RB/S Daril Hicks (5-9, 160), OL Jrystophor Ramirez (6-2, 275), TE/LB Jeremiah Green (5-10, 220), WR/DB David Campbell (5-10, 160), OL/DL Jesiah Marquez (6-4, 290).

2025 notes: Scarborough is on its fourth head coach in the past four seasons as former Houston Sam Houston assistant Allen Singleton takes over. He says the Spartans have some good young players like QB Alba and RB/S Hicks who will set the foundation for the future. There are capable players in the trenches with OL Ramirez and OL/DL Marquez. Singleton says they are still evaluating personnel and he's hoping to get some additional athletes out for football this fall.

WASHINGTON EAGLES (840)

Coach: Don Holloway. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-6/3-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Ahmad Richardson (5-10, 185, 4.5), DT Jaquarius Jordan (5-11, 225, 4.9), LB Dexter Williams (5-11, 185, 4.8), WR Cedric Crawford (5-6, 165, 4.5), WR Quten Powell (6-1, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Jesus Lopez (5-11, 225), DE Daryl Anderson (5-11, 200, 4.9). Top sophomore: DB K'Jaden Kizzie (5-11, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL Brennon Atkins, OL Walter Delcid, OL Neemiah Turner, LB Kory Lavalais, DB Courtney Grant.

2025 notes: After a rough 2023 campaign, the Eagles improved by three wins in 2024. Holloway believes Washington is ready to jump back into playoff contention. RB Richardson will operate behind a veteran offensive line, while there's playmakers on the outside with WRs Crawford and Powell. LB Williams and junior DE Anderson are stalwarts on the defensive side. Youth is still a concern as the Eagles expect to suit up just six seniors.

WHEATLEY WILDCATS (619)

Coach: Cornelius McFarland. Lettermen R/L: 16/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Thomas Johnson (6-2, 300), WR/DB Charles Williams (6-0, 165, 4.5), RB/LB Vincent Dorsey (5-8, 165, 4.6), SS Larry Dorsey (5-6, 160, 4.5), QB/DE Elijah Green (6-3, 215, 4.7), DE Peter Dorsey (6-2, 240, 4.7). Top juniors: ATH Cody Landor (5-6, 170, 4.6), LB Treyton Holmes (6-0, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Adam Herrera (5-10, 170, 4.5).

Other prospects: DB Jacorey Aguillard, OL/DL Amar Davis, OL Juan Turrubiates, WR Tyree Dixon, RB/LB Dominique Charles, OL/DL

District 11-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Christopher Brown, Houston Yates

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Thomas Johnson, Houston Wheatley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Houston Yates | 5. Houston Furr |
| 2. Houston Worthing | 6. Hou. Washington |
| 3. Houston Wheatley | 7. Houston Kashmere |
| 4. Hou. North Forest | 8. Houston Northside |
| | 9. Hou. Scarborough |

Braylon Barmes, SS Cameron Dorsey, OL Jose Turrubiates.

2025 notes: McFarland says senior leadership will be key as the Wildcats from the 5th Ward will look to get back to the postseason for a second straight year. OL/DL Johnson (78 tackles, 6 sacks) is a force on the defensive line and in the classroom, as he's No. 1 in his class. WR/DB Williams picked off six passes a year ago, while RB/LB Dorsey tallied 16 touchdowns and also chipped in over 70 tackles on defense.

WORTHING COLTS (835)

Coach: Brandon Ellis. Lettermen R/L: 6/25. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/8-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Christopher Spencer, LB Markel Wright, DT Chase Taylor, OL Ja'Bor O'Brien.

2025 notes: After a banner season that saw the Colts bring home a district title and win their first playoff game since 2010, things will look different as a large senior class has moved on. Sophomore WR Spencer is one of Houston's most dynamic young talents and will lead the offense. The defense will also be led by a sophomore in LB Wright, while senior DT Taylor will be the anchor in the middle of the defense.

YATES LIONS (795)

Coach: Jason Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 18/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/7-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Christopher Brown (5-10, 165, 4.5), WR/CB Joshua Wallace (6-4, 205, 4.5), TE/LB Derrick Wolford (6-2, 210, 4.7), LB McKinley Davis (5-10, 195, 4.6), OL Tristian Gadison (6-0, 295), WR/CB Edward Shinall (5-9, 165, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/CB Lamar Smith (5-9, 165, 4.5), LB Da'Moreion Thompson (5-10, 180, 4.9). Top sophomore: FS Zayveon Robinson (6-0, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Donovan Sanders, OL DeSean Carpenter.

2025 notes: New head coach Jason Lewis gets promoted at Yates after the departure of Rafael Thomas, who took over at 6A Mesquite. QB Brown (2,437 yards, 30 TDs passing; 1,273 yards, 17 TDs rushing) is one of the most explosive players in the Houston area, while WR/CB Wallace (19-524 yards, 7 TDs receiving) is a matchup nightmare for opposing defenses. The defense is led by TE/LB Wolford (70 tackles, 7 sacks) and LB Davis (80 tackles).



Hayden HENRY
OL
Hardin-Jefferson



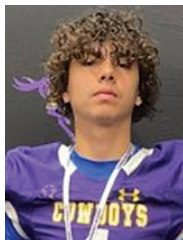
Daanthy ROBINSON
OL
North Forest



Alvin MOSLEY
WR/DB
Fort Bend Crawford



Rodney MITCHELL
RB/LB
Austin Travis



Christian SALAZAR
QB
Manor New Tech



Barrett FALLON
RB
San Antonio Davenport



Andrew LOPEZ
QB
San Antonio Kennedy

DC TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRAZOSPORT EXPORTERS (959)

Coach: Richard Sincere. Lettermen R/L: 20/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB D'Erion Ramsey (5-11, 190), DL Jason Arredondo (5-11, 230), QB Cameron Hinton (6-1, 185), WR JJ Barclay (6-1, 165), DB Isaiah Leija (5-9, 170), OL Lorenzo Fuller (5-10, 270), ATH Lamarrio Keresee (6-1, 155), LB Isaiah Calhoun.

2025 notes: The Exporters' last win came in the first round of the playoffs in 2022, so there's no place to go but up for a team mired in a 21-game losing skid. RB/LB Ramsey is the headliner along with versatile junior QB Hinton. DL Arredondo is the leader of a defensive unit that has good speed, but will need to improve.

FORT BEND CRAWFORD CHARGERS (1,256)

Coach: David Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 40/0. Starters returning O/D: 11/11. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Alvin Mosley (6-3, 190, 4.6), QB Braylen Fisher (6-0, 160, 4.6), DB Trason Richardson (6-2, 180, 4.5), OL Osagie Obaseki (6-2, 250), LB Camron Alakija (6-0, 205, 4.6), DE Khaidyn Hopson (6-1, 210, 4.7), RB Dedrick Polk (5-9, 175, 4.6), DB Nyheem Richardson, WR Alex Reyna, LB Royal James, DE Shemar Walls, OL Ced Frazier, WR Justin Butler, DB Christian James, K/P Miguel Arana.

2025 notes: It was a successful debut for the Chargers who made the playoffs in their first season, and with all 40 varsity players returning, there are high expectations for Year 2. QB Fisher is back and should take a major leap forward operating the offense. His favorite target WR/DB Mosley will be back as a talented playmaker. DB Richardson holds multiple FBS offers and was a first-team all-district selection.

FORT BEND WILLOWRIDGE EAGLES (1,270.5)

Coach: Kendron Penson. Lettermen R/L: 17/15. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Jacoby Johnson (6-3, 180, 4.5), S Jordan Jones (5-9, 165, 4.5), ATH Ameer Carter

(5-8, 160, 4.5), OL Terry Wade (6-3, 255), DB Anthony Janice (5-8, 150, 4.5), QB Orville Rumble (6-3, 160, 4.6), LB Juelz Dennis (6-3, 170, 4.6), DB Daniel Brinkley, TE Johnathan James, WR Johnathan Johnson.

2025 notes: Willowridge will look to climb back in the playoff mix after a disappointing finish to its 2024 campaign. The Eagles will have plenty of speed on the outside with WR Johnson, who hauled in six touchdown receptions a year ago. ATH Carter also returns, while Penson says junior QB Rumble is ready to step in and lead. S Jones is a three-year starter and the leader of the defense.

NAVASOTA RATTLERS (960)

Coach: Trey Allen. Lettermen R/L: 22/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-6 region semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Da'Quan Pratt (6-1, 190, 4.7), LB Ashton Myles (5-10, 195, 4.8), QB Jace Jablonski (5-11, 200), OL/DL Mason Warren (6-1, 260), LB Sam Thomas, LB Davyn Torres, DL Rodney Spinks, DE Mark McGinty, WR Valentin Castaneda, RB/DB Cameron Burrell.

2025 notes: Navasota pushed into the regional semifinal in Allen's first season, and the Rattlers hope to take another step forward. Junior QB Jablonski is back after a tremendous sophomore season. His top target WR Carr is back, as well. LB Myles missed the second half of the season with an injury.

NEEDVILLE BLUE JAYS (1,119)

Coach: Mike Giles. Lettermen R/L: 23/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Kobie Campbell (5-11, 180, 4.7), QB Cameron Hall (5-11, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Kase Vacek (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Kaden Jakubec (6-0, 185, 4.5), DL Leo Garcia (5-11, 205, 4.7), WR/DB Colton Butler (5-8, 175, 4.6), DE Weston Lindsey (6-0, 195, 4.9), WR/DB Carter Hedt (5-9, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Jaedon Williams (5-8, 140, 4.7), DE Tanner Cernoch, LB Diego Hernandez, OL Kameron Krejci, K Jesus Miranda.

2025 notes: Needville went young a year ago and it

will reload with a youth movement centered around ATH Murry, LB Covington, DB Covington and RB/LB Lamar. Seniors like QB House, DB/WR Baker, WR/DB Smith, QB/DB Riley and OL/DL Mathews will lead.

AUSTIN NORTHEAST RAIDERS (1,226)

Coach: Abdul Mustafa. Lettermen R/L: 18/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Jamal Stevenson, WR Marss Thomas, RB Zaveian Lewis, LB Jordan Petty, RB Darius Smith, DB Warren Dukes, ATH Jacob Flemmings, OL Kevin Carbajal, OL YanCarlos Ugarte.

2025 notes: Following a season in which his young team took some lumps, Mustafa welcomes back a more experienced squad eager to push for a playoff spot after two seasons without postseason action.

AUSTIN TRAVIS REBELS (1,197.5)

Coach: Joe Frank Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 17/22. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Rodney Mitchell (5-10, 195, 4.8), QB/DB Vincent Black (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Stephen Grande (5-10, 225, 5.4), WR/DB Jacob Rubio (5-9, 160, 4.9), OL/DL Michael Galvez (6-0, 240, 5.6), QB/DL Jarohn Williams (6-0, 220, 5.1), RB/LB Kenyon Morris (5-9, 180, 5.0), OL/DL Felipe Nieto (5-8, 205, 5.3), RB/LB Mitchell Krumm (5-11, 175, 5.0), TE/DL Wilder Clark.

2025 notes: A third-straight playoff trip might be a bit tougher for the rebuilding Rebels, who lost eight starters on each side of the ball, including seven in the trenches. RB/LB Mitchell is a key returnee who'll carry the offensive load while QBs Black and Williams settle in.

MANOR NEW TECH TITANS (605)

Coach: Derrick Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 18/4. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Christian Salazar (6-2, 190), WR Amir Washington (6-4, 185, 4.4), ATH Daevious Lewis (5-9, 160, 4.4), OL/LB Alex Johnson (6-0, 225), OL/DL Alex Garcia (6-0, 285), WR/DB Leon Walls (6-0, 170), ATH Dhani Sauls (5-11, 162, 4.5).

District 12-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kobie Campbell, Needville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Trason Richardson, Fort Bend Crawford

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Fort Bend Crawford
2. Needville
3. Stafford
4. Navasota
5. Freeport Brazosport
6. Ft. Bend Willowridge

paid off with a playoff win before falling to Kilgore in the area playoffs. A pair of juniors led the offense in RB Campbell and QB Hall. DL Garcia will be the anchor for a defense that should be much-improved, while WR/DB Butler returns to lead the secondary.

STAFFORD SPARTANS (1,102)

Coach: Ken Savannah. Lettermen R/L: 16/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-5 region semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Aiden Seals (5-9, 170, 4.5), LB Hatangimana Olivier (6-2, 190, 4.6), S J'Brion Sonnier (6-0, 175, 4.5), CB Denim Steed (5-9, 165, 4.5), QB Nate Ray (5-10, 205, 4.7), WR Dominic Young (6-3, 180, 4.6), ATH Jayce Watkins (5-9, 170, 4.5), DB Kaden Rousell (5-11, 165, 4.5), LB Corey Richardson (6-0, 185, 4.7), DB Robin Dansberry, DL Jayden Loudahl, OL Jaylyn Kemp, RB Daniel Collins, DB Javonne Purvis, OL Ean Bressler, WR Robert Endsley, RB Jeziah Pratt.

2025 notes: Stafford pushed to the third round of the playoffs for the second time in school history a year ago and could be ready for more in 2025. The key will be a veteran defense led by LB Oliver, CB Steed and S Sonnier. ATH Seals is a two-way force who is among the most explosive playmakers in Greater Houston.

AUSTIN ACHIEVE POLAR BEARS (628)

Coach: Joe Dimaio. Lettermen R/L: 15/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

2025 notes: No doubt 2024 was a tough one for the Polar Bears, but this year's team brings back a number of starters who earned valuable experience adjusting to varsity football, giving Dimaio optimism heading into 2025. QB Jose Orozco returns to run the offense.

AUSTIN EASTSIDE PANTHERS (694)

Coach: Luis Becerra. Lettermen R/L: 4/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Aydan Aguilar (5-10, 185, 5.2), OL/DL Douglas Sterling (5-10, 230, 5.0), RB/LB Jaylan Cathey (5-9, 155, 4.9), ATH Boaz Nkamba (5-11, 165, 4.8), ATH Moises Garcia (6-0, 155, 4.7), OL Christian Gonzalez (6-4, 298, 6.3), RB/DB Braelyn Young (5-8, 135, 4.7), ATH Damian Alvarez (6-0, 190, 5.5), WR/DB Mack Thompson (5-10, 120, 5.2), RB/LB Jay D Castro, RB/LB Khriishawn Bryant, TE/DE Jaedyn Ortiz, ATH Jeremiah Sanchez, OL James Esquivel.

2025 notes: After earning their first wins since 2017, Becerra's team now sets their sights on a bigger goal: Eastside's first playoff trip. The Panthers will be strong up front with OLs Sterling, Gonzalez and Esquivel returning. QB Aguilar takes over behind center.

AUSTIN LBJ JAGUARS (773)

Coach: Joseph Rauls. Lettermen R/L: 20/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Antione Baker (6-2, 175, 4.4), WR/DB Javarlyn Smith (5-10, 165, 4.5), ATH Marquis Murry II (6-0, 195, 4.5), QB/DB Tre Riley (6-1, 185, 4.5), OL/DL Eric Mathews (6-1, 290, 5.1), ATH Louis Hickman Jr. (5-9, 175, 4.3), LB/DL Jeffery Love II (6-1, 225, 4.8), LB Josh Covington (6-0, 205, 4.6), DB Josiah Covington, RB/LB Trace Lamar, OL/DL Diego Gomez, LB Derek Mendez, LB Trevin Candeh, OL Braydon Bueno, QB Jaylen House, OL Isaac Cruz, DL Keandre Yarbrough, RB/DB Kayden Lewis, K Edwin Mutute, DB Cincere Robertson.

2025 notes: The Jaguars continue to be the most consistent and most explosive AISD program. Rauls

2025 notes: The nucleus of a team that tied the school record for wins returns nearly intact. QB Salazar leads the way. ATH Lewis could be one of the area's top RBs. WRs Washington and Walls form a dynamic pass-catching duo. In the trenches, OL/DL Johnson earned all-district honors.

TAYLOR DUCKS (1,050)

Coach: Earven Flowers. Lettermen R/L: 21/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Eric Walker II (5-9, 190, 4.6), LB Stephen Rogers (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Ke'Zian Simien (5-11, 220, 4.8), OL Ryder Bass (5-11, 210, 4.9), DL Landon Coulter (5-10, 235, 4.9), OL Sebastian Robles (5-10, 225, 4.9), OL Jasiah Riojas (6-0, 240, 5.1) LB Billy Harrison (6-0, 180, 4.9), QB/WR Johnny Guzman (5-7, 150, 4.8), WR Tayden Talley, OL William Vindel, DL Jaime Cisneros, RB/LB Kavon Godwin, DL Caleb Whitehead, OL Sean Faddis, WR Xavier Stokes, DB Cayden Hinesley.

2025 notes: Newcomer RB Walker II (1,245 yards, 12 TDs rushing) brings an added punch to a Taylor offense that averaged 36 points per game last season. He'll also ease the transition for a new QB. The Ducks will also lean on a defense anchored by LBs Rogers and Simien.

District 13-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Eric Walker II, Taylor

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Antione Baker, Austin LBJ

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Austin LBJ
2. Taylor
3. Austin Travis
4. Manor New Tech
5. Austin Eastside
6. Austin Northeast
7. Austin Achieve

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CANYON LAKE HAWKS (1,032)

Coach: Sam Parker. Lettermen R/L: 30/16. Starters returning O/D: 8/11. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Tristan Alexander (5-11, 165, 4.5), LB Eli Hammons (6-2, 205, 4.6), DL Dalton Hodges (6-1, 210, 4.7), QB Jace Wheeler (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL Cayden Toon (6-4, 305, 5.1), WR Peyton King (6-0, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: DB Carter Prieto (5-11, 175, 4.5), RB Nico Wyckoff (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB Brayden Sullivan (6-2, 205, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Isiah Eureste, LB J.R. Lindell, DB Ben Parma, DB Jacob Price, DL Joseph Matos-Padilla, WR Gram Simpson, RB Chris Brown, K/WR Jackson Stracener.

2025 notes: After making their biggest playoff run since 2017, the Hawks could be set up for a historic run because of their returning experience, especially on defense. LB Hammons (134 tackles, 29 TFL, 7 sacks) is a disruptor who also blocked two kicks and forced two fumbles. DL Hodges (38.5 tackles, 11 TFL, 5 sacks) also leads on defense. QB Wheeler (1,950 yards, 29 TDs passing) will help the Hawks move the ball.

FREDERICKSBURG BATTLIN' BILLIES (1,047)

Coach: Bill Wilder. Lettermen R/L: 17/22. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Aaron Cantu, DB Yair Hernandez, DL Parker Faucheux, OL Victor Arteaga, DB Santi Villa, WR Noah Tatum. Top juniors: WR/DB Griffin Beard, LB Creek Frantzen.

Other prospects: OL Wyatt Westbook, QB/WR Harrison Langford, RB Jaren Quay, OL Jacob White, DL Hugo Escobedo, OL Christopher Gloria, DL Eli King.

2024 notes: Coach Wilder cites the Billies' returning starters on both sides of the ball and key reserves who got a lot of snaps last season as a reason why they'll compete for a playoff spot for a fifth straight season. LB Frantzen (118 tackles, 11 TFL) leads the defense, along with DL King (35 tackles, 3 sacks) and DB Villa (2 INTs).

PLEASANTON EAGLES (993.5)

Coach: Randy Palmer. Lettermen R/L: 17/20. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Chris Ortiz (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL Justin Olivarri (6-2, 280), QB/DB Emerick Alvarado (6-0, 180, 4.7), DB Keaton Diaz (5-7, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Ty Anderson (6-0, 270), TE/DL Adrian Gonzales (6-0, 240). Top juniors: RB/LB Marcus Ontiveros (5-9, 170), DB Aiden Alcorta (5-8, 160). Top sophomore: QB/DB Peyton Jones (5-10, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: DB/WR Tobias Hinojosa, OL/DL Kadynce Plummer, LB/RB Gilbert Rodriguez, TE/DL Ryan Morales, OL/DL Izaac Spain, LB/TE Jacob Barrow, RB/DB Jadin Rodriguez, DB/WR Lance Mix.

2025 notes: Palmer returns to his alma mater to lead the Eagles following a successful run as offensive coordinator at Shiner, where he won two state championships. He inherits a young team whose

strength lies in a talented linebacking group led by Ortiz (92 tackles). DBs Diaz (98 tackles, 3 INTs) and Alvarado (37 tackles) are terrific athletes. The Eagles hope that experience on defense will buy time for their inexperienced offense to get settled before district play begins.

SAN ANTONIO DAVENPORT WOLVES (1,295)

Coach: J.D. Zimmerhanel. Lettermen R/L: 30/29. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Barrett Fallon (5-10, 185, 4.5), LB Tate Broadus (6-3, 215, 4.8), LB Peyton Yankee (6-2, 200, 4.8), DB Josh Johnson (5-11, 160, 4.5), OL Luke Lindley (6-5, 300, 5.6), DL Brody Vestal (6-2, 250, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Wesley Williams (6-5, 290, 5.5), OL Luke Gaston (6-1, 260, 5.1). Top sophomore: QB Tristan Torrez (160, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Caden Scott, RB Kele Solidum, DL Hayden Turner, DB Trevin Singletary, WR Brendan Whitworth, WR Tucker Gomez, LB Nolan Brown, QB Brady Eggleston.

2025 notes: The Wolves have quickly risen to a consistent powerhouse after playing their first varsity season in 2021. Davenport has made deep playoff runs over the last three seasons and is set up for a district championship three-peat. RB Fallon (1,710 yards, 25 TDs rushing; 203 yards, 3 TDs receiving) is one of the best offensive players in San Antonio. LB Broadus (82 tackles, 2 sacks) is a two-year starter.

SAN ANTONIO KENNEDY ROCKETS (1,053.5)

Coach: Matt Hove. Lettermen R/L: 18/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Andrew Lopez (6-0, 185, 4.9), DB Matthew Hernandez (5-11, 165, 4.9), DL/OL Lamar Fields (6-1, 275, 5.2), OL Daniel Enriquez (6-1, 295, 5.8), OL Eddie Lopez (5-7, 255, 5.5), WR Jayvus Simmons (5-9, 165, 4.9). Top juniors: DB Aayden Garces (5-9, 155, 4.7), DL Jayden Jordan (6-1, 190, 5.1). Top sophomore: Damien Enriquez (6-1, 235, 5.2).

Other prospects: DL Aidan Araiza, WR David Diaz, LB/DL Augustine Trevino, LB/DL Jonas Mendoza, DB Gilbert Perez, RB Chris Reyes, DL Esteban Contreras, DB Jaydin Hurtado.

2025 notes: Coach Hove believes the Rockets will benefit from a high number of third- and fourth-year starters as they search for their first playoff spot since 2021. Fields and Enriquez are fourth-year starters in the trenches. DB Hernandez (51 tackles, 2 INTs) and WR Simmons (226 yards receiving) are third-year starters. QB Lopez (730 yards, 3 TD passing; 161 yards, 3 TDs rushing) is smart and has an accurate arm.

SOMERSET BULLDOGS (1,295)

Coach: Koy Detmer. Lettermen R/L: 24/28. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Qwanell Nesby (5-11, 165,

District 14-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Barrett Fallon, San Antonio Davenport

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Eli Hammons, Fischer Canyon Lake

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. SA Davenport | 5. Pleasanton |
| 2. Fischer Canyon Lake | 6. Uvalde |
| 3. Somerset | 7. SA Kennedy |
| 4. Fredericksburg | |

4.6), QB Kaleb Flores (5-9, 155, 4.6), WR Owen Woodson (5-9, 145, 4.6), DL Cruz Abundes (5-8, 205, 5.1), RB Joe Torres (5-9, 155, 4.5), WR Gavin Martinez (5-9, 145, 4.4). Top juniors: RB John Alvarez (5-11, 185, 4.6), DB Ayden Vasquez (5-8, 150, 4.6). Top sophomore: OL Jake Seay (6-3, 315).

Other prospects: WR Malakai Iverson, LB John Wayne Niemietz, LB Samuel Hansen, DB Sonny Imming, OL/DL David Garcia, LB Dylan Delgado, DB Kaden Isbell, DL Dominic Nava.

2025 notes: Coach Detmer is pleased with the return of quality skill players but is concerned with the depth of the offensive line. Good news is the Bulldogs have a quality QB in Flores (1,789 yards, 21 TDs passing). WRs Nesby (456 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and Woodson (339 yards, 6 TDs receiving) should be his top targets. WR Martinez (340 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will play DB, too. DL Abundes (30 tackles) is a three-year starter.

UVALDE COYOTES (1,299)

Coach: Wade Miller. Lettermen R/L 26/21. Starters returning O/D: 9/5. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Jett Flores (5-10, 170, 4.6), DL/RB Jared Martinez (6-1, 215, 4.7), WR/DB Diego Grenados (5-10, 170, 4.5), OL Joshua Machuca (6-4, 280, 5.0), RB Rocky Duran (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Adam Barboza (5-11, 250, 4.9). Top juniors: LB Wally Flores (5-10, 230, 4.8), WR Derek De La Cruz (5-10, 230, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Darrion Navarro, LB/RB Ryan Baron, OL Jose Hurtado, WR/LB Jordan Castillo, WR/DB Christopher Rodriguez, DL/TE Gavin Torres, DB/WR Derek Terrazes, QB/LB Jordan Alberado.

2025 notes: The Coyotes' experience on offense puts them in a good spot to get back to the playoffs after missing them last season. QB Flores (412 yards, 3 TDs passing) settled in as the starter after missing six games due to injury. RB Duran (711 yards, 8 TDs rushing) also performed well in limited play (five games). LB Flores (88 tackles) and DL Martinez (49 tackles, 7 sacks) are the top returners on defense.



Aaron **CANTU**
Fredericksburg running back

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BAY CITY BLACK CATS (1,035)

Coach: Robert Jones. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 12-2 regional finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: LB James Copeland (5-11, 190), LB Davont'a Harris (5-10, 185), WR Jordan Johnson (5-10, 160), DE/LB Jordan O'Neal (6-1, 185), LB Trevell Wells (6-0, 180), QB/WR/DB Keimariion Wiggins (5-10, 187), WR Isaac Stinson (6-2, 185), DB Braden Jones (5-10, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Javius Andrews (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: Bay City ended a 20-year drought by winning its first district championship since 2004 and its first outright district title since 2003. The Blackcats did so with an explosive offense that averaged over 51 points per game. Bay City will rely more on its defense this season, especially with the return of LBs Copeland, Harris, and O'Neal.

BEEVILLE JONES TROJANS (1,023)

Coach: Dave Holmgreen. Lettermen R/L: 17/27. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to Watch: WR/DB Davyn Perez (5-9, 150, 4.6), LB Seth Gutierrez (5-8, 195, 4.8), DB/WR Davion Brock (6-0, 165, 4.7), OL Jesus Martinez (6-1, 310, 6.3), DB Gavyn Garza (5-8, 175, 4.7), TE Jayce Foster (6-2, 180, 5.0), RB Jayden Esparza (5-8, 160, 4.5), UTIL BJ Rivas, QB Tyler Lang, OL/DL Kobe Amador, DL/OL Jayden Clark.

2025 notes: The Trojans had to adapt to a new offense last season without an offseason. They struggled on offense, never scoring more than 25 points in any game, and averaged just over 10 points per game in district play. Holmgreen expects to see major improvements after a full offseason. The Trojans will rely heavily on Perez, who had 748 all-purpose yards.

CALHOUN SANDCRABS (1,026)

Coach: Stephen Hrcirc. Lettermen R/L: 14/16. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 7-6 regional semifinalist/4-1 district.

Top prospects: RB/DB Isaih Cabrales (5-8, 146, 4.6), RB/DB Holton Hadley (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL Gilbert Baldera (5-9, 215, 5.0), OL Jake Jenkins (5-10, 232, 5.0), LB Reuben Lu (5-8, 176, 4.9), RB/WR/DB David

Varela (5-4, 151, 4.7), LB/TE Dane Spencer (6-3, 212, 5.1), QB/DB Avery Svetlik (5-10, 154, 5.0), QB Ashton Sternadel, FB/LB Gunner Martinez, RB/DB Jaiden Farrow, LB/DL Holston Deckard, WR/DB Ethen Ramirez, OL/DL Phoenix Pledger.

2025 notes: A major change is underway in Port Lavaca. Richard Whitaker retired as head coach after 19 seasons, in which he led a team that hadn't been to the playoffs since 1961 to 17 playoff appearances. Coach Hrcirc comes from Calallen and will transition the Sandcrabs from their triple option to a pro-style wing-T.

EL CAMPO RICEBIRDS (1,005)

Coach: Travis Reeve. Lettermen R/L: 24/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Kylon Taylor (5-10, 190, 4.5), QB Ridge Spenrath (6-2, 190, 4.7), LB Will Rod (5-11, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Luke Rod (5-11, 190, 4.6), OL Marqui Hebert (6-3, 315, 5.7), DT Robert Pavon (6-0, 265, 5.1), WR/DB Andy Russell (5-6, 150, 4.4), DL Colton Vernon (6-3, 260, 4.9), Top Sophomore: ATH Jonah Poenitzsch (6-1, 180, 4.7), DL Izik Mendez, OL Cade Stehling, RB Vlad Garcia, RB/DB Jeremy Soto, DL/RB Ben Clifton, QB/TE Colt Reeve, QB/DB Jackson Bystrek, LB Mason Cortez.

2025 notes: Injuries to key players turned a promising season into four straight losses at the end. The Ricebirds have a number of three-year lettermen returning who are familiar with the system. Coach Reeve expects the defense to be solid, led by DBs Taylor and Luke Rod, LB Will Rod, and DL Pavon. QB Spenrath has two seasons experience, but El Campo will be thin at the skill positions.

FLORESVILLE TIGERS (1,272)

Coach: Ilyan Martinez. Lettermen R/L: 28/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Drake Coronado, WR Noelyn Lozano, LB Jett Martinez, LB Daniel Schaefer, DL Wesley Kotzur, OL Omar Torres, ATH Rowan Flores, WR Keysan Marsh, LB Ethaan Williams, OL Nolan Garcia, DB Julien Peeler.

2025: The Tigers should show improvement in

QB Wheeler is expected to bring balance offensively with a big arm. DL Cortez (45 tackles) and DB Fonseca (45 tackles) will lead the Pirates defensively.

PHARR VALLEY VIEW TIGERS (1,306.5)

Coach: Hector Ayala. Lettermen R/L: 19/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 1-9/0-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/LB Israel Fiscal (5-10, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Diego Morales (5-8, 165, 4.7), RB/LB Cristoff Tollett (5-8, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Roland De La Rosa (6-2, 220, 5.3), OL/DL Angel Martinez (5-10, 260, 5.7), RB/LB Juan Gomez (5-7, 160, 180), OL/DL Joseph Lopez (6-3, 290, 5.6), TE/LB Julian Ayala (5-10, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Sebastian Vidal, LB/DT Juan Munoz, WR/DB Jose Jasso, QB/DB Chris Custodio.

2025 notes: TE/LB Fiscal (82 tackles, 12 TFL) leads a strong room of linebackers on a defense that needs to play bigger inside. WR/DB Morales and RB/LB Tollett are both back after missing time with injury last season to give the Tigers a pair of playmakers. Valley View also returns four starters on the OL to set the tone offensively.

TULOSO-MIDWAY WARRIORS (1,111.5)

Coach: James Villarreal. Lettermen R/L: 19/28. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Damien Figueroa (5-10, 198, 4.5), QB Joaquin Trevino (6-1, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Jonah Darby (5-8, 150, 4.6), WR/DB Ricky Hernandez (5-8, 150, 4.5), WR/DB Jace Arriaga (6-0, 185, 4.7), DL Jaython Ayala (5-11, 190, 4.7), OL Ethan Barrientos (6-3, 260, 5.0), LB Brayden Genzer (6-0, 190, 4.7), DL Ayden Gilchrist (6-0, 190, 4.8), RB Carlos Trevino, LB Jordan Gonzalez, OL Noah Gonzalez.

2025 notes: RB Figueroa (2,003 yards, 32 TDs rushing) was among South Texas' best backs last season and he'll have four returning starters on the OL. QB Trevino moves from the defensive side to lead the power spread offense. Defensively, the Warriors will lean on DL Ayala and a strong linebacking and secondary corps, led by LB Genzer and WR/DB Darby,

District 15-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Sean Garza, La Vernia

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB James Copeland, Bay City

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. La Vernia
2. Bay City
3. El Campo
4. Port Lavaca Calhoun
5. Beeville Jones
6. Floresville

the second year of Martinez's tenure, but will still be a younger team, led by a talented junior class. QB Coronado and WR Lozano are an experienced combination. LBs Martinez and Schaefer will be counted on to improve a defense that surrendered a total of 271 points in its four district losses.

LA VERNIA BEARS (999)

Coach: Brian Null. Lettermen R/L: 18/30. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 11-4 state semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Sean Garza (5-10, 180, 4.5), OL Coy Hollingsworth (6-5, 299, 5.0), TE Peyton Stahl (6-0, 195, 4.7), LB Vinny Capparelli (5-10, 185, 4.9), LB Remington Rhode (6-0, 185, 4.8), DL Cole Farmer (6-0, 220, 4.9), DB/QB Cooper Null (6-0, 180, 4.5), RB/LB Ty Carter (5-10, 185, 4.5), DB Hayden Dietrick, WR/QB Beckett Richardson, OL Jeff Majka, DB/WR Matthew Lindsey, WR Wyatt Frank, DL Dylan McReynolds, LB Bryer Crane, WR/DB Aiden Kramer.

2025: The Bears played hard-nosed football, lining up and coming right at people and it carried them all the way to the state semifinals. La Vernia even avenged both of its district losses in the playoffs. Expect more of the same with the return of RB Garza, the district's offensive player of the year. He will run behind a line built around Hollingsworth.

WR/DB Hernandez and WR/DB Arriaga.

ZAPATA HAWKS (1,068.5)

Coach: David Porras Jr. Lettermen R/L: 24/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/11. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Lauro Guerra (6-0, 185, 4.7), WR Jay Solis (5-10, 165, 4.5), WR Carlos Gonzalez (5-8, 145, 4.7), LB Jesus Aguilar (5-11, 190, 4.9), LB Francisco Munoz (6-0, 190, 4.8), OL Danny Perales (6-1, 240, 5.2), LB Ethan Martinez (5-9, 165, 4.8), DL Joseph Lozano (5-10, 200, 4.9), DB Rene Rivera (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR/DB JC Solis (5-9, 155, 4.7), DB Jose Torres (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL Ferny Garza (5-10, 240, 5.2), RB Chris Veloz (5-10, 165, 4.7), DL Marcos Mendoza (5-9, 240, 5.3), DL Emilio Rodriguez (6-0, 195, 5.2).

2025 notes: The Hawks are loaded with 18 returning starters that should put them in district title contention. WR Solis (69-1,160 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and WR Gonzalez (91-860 yards, 3 TDs receiving) are Zapata's top offensive weapons and they'll help new QB Guerra execute the spread. LB Aguilar (90 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) and LB Munoz (75 tackles, 15 TFL, 12 sacks) lead the Hawks' defense with everybody back.

District 16-4A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Damien Figueroa, CC Tuloso-Midway

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Ryder Reeve, CC Calallen

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. CC Calallen
2. CC Tuloso-Midway
3. Zapata
4. Hidalgo
5. Pharr Valley View

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

FORT STOCKTON PANTHERS (721)

Coach: DJ Howell. Lettermen R/L: 20/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Kasch Norman (6-0, 210, 4.9), RB Gerry Diaz (5-10, 215, 4.9), WR/DB Angel Lujan (6-0, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Nikki Sotelo (5-11, 165, 4.7), RB/DB Diego Ramos (5-11, 185, 4.7), OL Cy Rojas (6-3, 225, 5.4), WR Robbie Melendez (5-10, 165, 4.7), OL JJ Montoya (6-2, 290, 5.3), ATH Bubba Patino (5-7, 150, 4.7), ATH Nick Almendarez, LB Christian Bislar, OL Andrew Black, LB Allan Leyva, OL/DL Roy Marquez, OL Jose Baeza.

2025 notes: New coach Howell, in from Sterling City, takes over a Panthers program on the rise. He inherits QB Norman, who missed half of the 2024 season with an injury, and RB Diaz, who can play all over the field. Junior WR/DB Lujan is an expected two-way starter and will line up opposite WR Melendez, who dominated on subvarsity as a sophomore.

MIDLAND GREENWOOD RANGERS (848)

Coach: Bryan Hill. Lettermen R/L: 21/18. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Lincoln Madrid (5-9, 165, 4.7), ATH Dylan Payton (5-10, 160, 4.4), RB Nathaniel Romero (5-10, 160, 4.5), LB Dakota Underhill (6-0, 175, 4.6), ATH Reece Watzl (6-0, 185, 4.6), OL Jayden Colvert (6-4, 275, 5.2), DL Lane Wilhelm (6-3, 220, 4.9), WR/DB Andrick Rodriguez (6-0, 170, 4.5), DB Kasen Brooks, DL Luke Fails, DL Layne Wauson, OL Erick Bustamante, DB Noah Rivas, DB Nathan Tarango, DB Joey Vazquez, TE Gavin Ivey.

2025 notes: Greenwood is going to be senior heavy this fall, most of whom are three-year starters, but the Rangers must replace an all-state linebacker in Landon Butts. LB Underhill (130 tackles) will be the one tasked with stepping into that leadership role on a defense that allowed 23

points per game. The defense will benefit from an explosive offense, led by QB Madrid (2,077 yards, 29 TDs passing) and RB Romero (1,272 yards, 17 TDs rushing).

MONAHANS LOBOES (637)

Coach: Fred Staugh. Lettermen R/L: 20/17. Starters returning O/D: 2/6. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Majestic Williams (5-7, 175, 4.5), QB/DB Lucas Chavez (5-10, 180, 4.8), TE/LB Iziah Marquez (5-7, 230, 4.9), DB Maurice McNary (6-0, 165, 4.8), LB Trey Caballero (5-8, 175, 5.0), TE Milo Melius (6-5, 250), DB Gavin Cowart (5-9, 145, 4.7), DB Elias Deanda (5-8, 150, 4.9), OL/DL Brady Morrell (6-0, 250), WR Jason Munoz.

2025 notes: RB Williams is an explosive playmaker with great vision and will be the featured back in the Monahans offense. Junior QB/DB Chavez is developing into a leader that Staugh calls a "talented, athletic young man who works hard." TE/LB Marquez loves to run-block and is a great tackler. Monahans is looking forward to DB McNary being a lockdown defender that can take on top receivers.

SEMINOLE INDIANS (861)

Coach: Greg Poyner. Lettermen R/L: 34/21. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Caton Cramer (6-3, 195, 4.6), DB Austin Olivas (6-3, 185, 4.6), OL Chase Elrod (6-7, 275, 5.2), WR Logan McCormick (5-9, 155, 4.5), OL Noah Alvidrez (6-3, 255, 5.2), DE Gabryl Alaniz (6-3, 220, 4.7), WR Jaycen Robledo (6-0, 150, 4.5), DB Weston Dugan (5-10, 145, 4.6), DB Jayden Corrales (5-10, 155, 4.6), WR Stephen Davis, OL Jack Parkey, WR Jordan Garcia, QB Dominick Higgins, DE Hiram Gaytan, DL Aaron Sigala.

2025 notes: A deep senior class entering its third season on varsity has the Indians excited about the potential of a deep playoff run this year. ATH Cramer can play anywhere on offense and Poyner expects

District 1-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Lincoln Madrid, Midland Greenwood

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Caton Cramer, Seminole

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Midland Greenwood
2. Seminole
3. Monahans
4. Fort Stockton
5. Snyder

him to see time on defense, as well. DB Olivas leads the secondary and brings toughness to the field, while DE Alaniz is speedy and athletic and lives in the backfield. DB Corrales is a high-ceiling player that should make an impact as an underclassman.

SNYDER TIGERS (693)

Coach: Anthony Gonzales. Lettermen R/L: 22/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 1-9/0-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Ethan Rios (6-1, 185, 4.7), TE/LB Caydn Barboza (5-8, 185, 5.0), OL/DL Gavin Danford (5-11, 235, 4.9), TE/LB Andres Martinez (5-11, 200, 4.8), WR/LB Keshawn Lenard (6-2, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Uriel Hernandez (6-3, 285, 5.2).

2025 notes: The Tigers' offseason focused on developing leaders so that when the season begins the focus can shift to learning how to win games. Snyder will enter the year knowing that its strength lies along the offensive and defensive lines after losing just one player from both to graduation. Aedyn Claxton and Seth Cooper will enter fall camp competing to be the starting quarterback. The winner of that competition will have a big target to throw to in WR/DB Rios.

BORGER BULLDOGS (717)

Coach: Dane Hamrick. Letterman R/L: 14/28. Starters returning: 4/3. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Ulises Casteneda (6-0, 180, 4.8), RB/DB Dyllon Yankee (5-10, 185, 4.7), QB Hunter Randles (6-0, 180, 5.0), OL/DL Gustavo Robies (5-10, 265, 5.2), TE/DL Degyn Smith (6-0, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Dalon Tipps (5-11, 215, 5.1), TE/DL Ashton Garcia (6-2, 205, 4.9), RB/LB Kareem Shelton (5-10, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Joshua Joyce (6-1, 200, 5.1), WR/DB Braylon Contreras, OL/DL Zaymian Heredia, RB/LB Augustin Bravo, WR/DB Jesus Martinez, QB/WR/DB Christian Garcia, RB/LB Nicko Ponce, OL/DL Camron Jones.

2025 notes: Hamrick is optimistic this year — he sees the buy-in and unselfishness he's asked of his program since taking over. Borger will be young but has made progress. QB Randles (944 yards, 5 TDs passing) suffered through growing pains last year but is a year older and wiser at the position. DB Casteneda made the most of his snaps and is going to have a bigger role, and RB Yankee provides a pop in the backfield.

LEVELLAND LOBOS (760)

Coach: Lyle Leong. Letterman R/L: 27/13. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Kaden Brogden (5-10, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Bryson Golightly (5-9, 165, 4.5), RB/LB Noah Martin (5-9, 175, 4.8), RB/LB Jake Potter (5-9, 170, 4.6), OL Casen Potter (6-3, 295, 5.2), OL/DL Tanane Brackens (6-1, 250, 5.0), WR/DB Abraham Arteaga (5-10, 165, 4.5), QB Ethan Salazar (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Matthew Guillen (5-8, 160, 4.6), QB Boston Winfield, WR/LB Kysen Niblett, WR/DB Joshua Diaz, WR/DB Eric Paredez, WR/DB Tobias Gavina, WR/LB Julian Sanchez, WR/DB Arron Salas.

2025 notes: Levelland can build on the fact it was over .500 and have shown improvement under Leong. There are eleven returning starters who know his expectations. QB Salazar returns after leading the

Lobos in passing last year. RB Martin is back in an experienced role and there is a plethora of outside weapons in WR/DB Golightly, WR/DB Brogden and Niblett to name a few.

LUBBOCK ESTACADO MATADORS (873)

Coach: Eric Ward. Letterman R/L: 26/11. Starters returning: 8/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB James Bozeman (5-10, 185, 4.3), WR/DB Cedric Ross (6-0, 195, 4.3), DB Donovan Torrez (6-0, 195, 4.4), DB Raydon Sanders (6-2, 195, 4.4), WR Ja'Terrian Hargers (6-0, 185), LB Jaylen Matthews (6-0, 200), OL/DL Vershaundrick Smith (6-4, 290), DB Nathan Johnson (6-2, 190), DB Jerriel Hawkins (6-1, 185), TE/LB Z'Ryan Robinson, OL Avian Hernandez, OL/DL Savariious Holdman, FB/LB Dontavius Bass, QB Dereon Walker, OL Da'Kyrie Boyd, TE/DL Ryheim Hunter, RB/LB Gary Brooks.

2025 notes: As per usual, the Matadors are full of team speed with RB Bozeman and WR Ross leading the charge. The secondary is well taken care of from DB Torrez, to Sanders and Johnson all providing plenty of experience. Ward was able to get the Matadors turned around from a slow start last year, and with 14 starters back the expectation of another playoff push is sky high.

LUBBOCK LIBERTY PATRIOTS (652)

Coach: Joe Sexton. Letterman R/L: 46/0. Starters returning: 11/11. 2024: 2-8/1-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Colton Richard (6-1, 160, 4.8), WR Levi Walker (6-1, 195, 4.6), DL Isaac Rodriguez (6-2, 225, 4.8), DB Jaxon Thomas (6-0, 190, 4.8), DB Gavin McPherson (5-10, 150, 4.4), RB Talon Wilcox (5-8, 140, 4.3), WR Pierce Fioroni (6-0, 155, 4.7), DL Braxton Bitar (5-11, 250, 5.1), TE Koleman Hendrix (6-6, 195, 4.9), RB Kaiden Joseph, OL Barrett Sugarek, OL Hudson Heffner, OL Manny Garcia, OL Paxton Lair, OL Dylan Thomas.

2025 notes: This second edition of the Patriots program has talent and big-time potential written all over it. Without a senior on the field last year, Sexton

has a veteran team full of experience ready to make an impact. QB Richard (1,243 yards, 17 TDs passing) had a superb first year making a connection with WR Walker (454 yards). DL Rodriguez (66 tackles) and DB Thomas (104 tackles) are key weapons on the defensive side.

PERRYTON RANGERS (605)

Coach: Joshua Hernandez. Letterman R/L: 24/11. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Cooper Schilling (6-0, 160), WR/DB Gordo Estrada (5-9, 160), LB Cash Wheeler (6-1, 210), DB/WR Marco Najera (5-10, 180), WR Bryce Hill (6-2, 175), RB/LB Carson Habertur (5-10, 180).

2025 notes: Hernandez hit the ground running, trying to rebuild the Rangers last year, and through the ups and downs his team was able to make the playoffs. With the skill positions locked in, the battle now is to find linemen and depth. QB Schilling (2,021 yards, 20 TDs passing) has solidified himself as a trustworthy leader. WR Estrada (71-1,208 yards, 8 TDs receiving) has tremendous speed and is very dangerous on the outside. LB Wheeler (105 tackles) anchors the defense.

District 2-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB James Bozeman, Lubbock Estacado

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Cedric Ross, Lubbock Estacado

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Lubbock Estacado
2. Lubbock Liberty
3. Perryton
4. Levelland
5. Borger

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A
HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRIDGEPORT BULLS (653)

Coach: Aaron Cupp. Lettermen R/L: 22/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Tatum Blaylock, RB Trace Marlett (5-5, 140, 4.6), DL Mathew Eslinger (6-1, 270, 5.1), TE Mason Bentley (6-3, 215, 4.7), RB/DB Josh Spotts (5-10, 160, 4.7), QB Bryce Webb (5-10, 200, 5.0), OL Dominic Serafin (5-10, 249), LB Logan Mowrey (5-11, 150, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Bulls should benefit from a second year in coach Cupp's system. LB Blaylock is the team's top defender, and will combine with Marlett as options in the backfield. Eslinger provides a physical presence on the defensive line.

BROCK EAGLES (624)

Coach: Billy Mathis. Lettermen R/L: 18/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 13-2 state semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Colt Matlock (6-1, 185, 4.4), OL/DL Waylon Winfrey (6-1, 260, 5.0), WR/DB Charles Hibbler (6-1, 180, 4.5), TE/DL Slade Mathis (6-0, 190, 4.7), WR/DB Braeden Ray (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Bryer McDonald (6-1, 210, 4.6), TE/LB Hayden Waller (6-3, 210, 4.6), QB/DB Holt Frazier (6-2, 200, 4.6), RB/LB Jack Farhat, WR/DB Wade Doherty, WR/DB Beau Leach, RB/DB Dash Lindsey, WR/DB Hunter Martin, TE/DL Caleb Holt, WR/LB Dax Hays, OL/DL Logan Wofford, OL/DL Tobyn Roger.

2025 notes: The Eagles will rely on a defense led by DB Matlock, DE Mathis and LB Farhat, who shined as a freshman. Most of Brock's offensive line and its quarterback will be new, so the Eagles will lean on Matlock and RB McDonald.

BURKBURNETT BULLDOGS (942)

Coach: Patrick Williams. Lettermen R/L: 18/18. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Brody Boyd (5-10, 175, 4.9), TE/DL Luke Kirkpatrick (5-10, 210, 5.1), WR/DB J'Quan Carroll (6-3, 185, 4.7), TE/DL Cooper Riley (6-0, 210, 4.9), RB/LB George Moseley (6-0, 190, 4.8), WR/DL/K Griffen Johnston, OL Nathan Gray

(5-11, 285, 5.8), RB/LB Kaleo Kau (5-11, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Cayden Gerstner (5-7, 145, 4.8), OL Seth Taylor, WR/DB Matthew Mackey, OL Lane Gibson, OL Hunter Mowat, TE/LB Joseph Montgomery, WR/DB Mathew Bentley, OL/DL Dakota Strey, RB/LB Cristian Lewis.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs look to rebound from a disappointing year, and they have a strong nucleus of skill kids who can make that happen. QB Boyd should be more polished with a season under his belt, while Carroll had a breakout freshman year.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN KNIGHTS (863.17)

Coach: Jeremy Mullins. Lettermen R/L: 35/0. Starters returning O/D: 11/11. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/1-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Justin Fox (6-2, 195, 4.6), RB Terry Starks (5-9, 170, 4.6), OL Austin James (6-1, 265), LB Tyler Self (6-0, 185, 4.6), QB Brycen Vindiola (6-1, 165, 4.6), LB Matthew Neill (5-10, 190), WR Cameron Henderson (6-3, 175, 4.7), LB Koryn Barton (5-9, 195, 4.7), ATH Kayden Steward (5-11, 185), DB Mamoud Hussein, WR Kathen Middleton, OL Romeo Brown, DL Jase Lunsford, DL Qu-Mario Nichols, DL Jayden Hernandez, OL Paxton Roest, DB Cortez Cunningham.

2025 notes: The Knights are hoping to build off what the first-year program started last season, and returning everyone to the fold should help with that. RB Starks is the Knights' top offensive weapon, while James, Nichols and Hernandez were all first-team all-district linemen.

GRAHAM STEERS (689)

Coach: Clay McChristian. Lettermen R/L: 17/26. Starters returning O/D: 1/3. 2024: 12-2 regional finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Jace Gill (5-11, 180, 4.6), LB Tripp Mahaney (6-0, 185, 4.6), RB/DB Isaiah Flores (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL Tyson Louder (6-4, 315, 5.8), LB Landon Bass (5-11, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Jordan Alexander (6-1, 175, 4.7), DB Cooper Corley, TE/LB Thomason Burkett (6-2, 190, 4.7), DL Brennen Strawbridge, DB Colt Taylor, DB Santiago Zamora, OL McCrae Reese, DL Andrew Ramirez, WR Parker Hale, WR/DB Braxton Braim, LB Roan Pratt.

OL Chase Alexander (6-2, 285), RB Braylon Reid (5-9, 170), LB Gage Douglas (5-9, 185), DB Kaiden Shannon (5-11, 170), DL Alexis Muro (5-10, 170), OL Kaden Gray.

2025 notes: A strong senior class has moved on, but don't expect Glen Rose to fall off under Watkins. Sophomore QB Males takes over under center after playing multiple spots as a freshman and making one start in 2024 at QB. TE/LB Ribitzki will be a force for the defense after a first-team all-district junior season.

GODLEY WILDCATS (827)

Coach: Danny Dudgeon. Lettermen R/L: 30/18. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Keegan Bohannon (6-2, 260), WR/DB Crosby Carmichael (5-8, 160, 4.6), TE Tripp Karnes (6-0, 200, 4.7), LB Alberto Diaz (6-0, 230, 4.8), LB Ty Mathis (5-10, 200, 4.7), RB Adam Pempsell (5-9, 170, 4.6), WR/LB Ethan Marski (6-4, 200, 4.6), QB Ryder Papasan (5-8, 160, 4.6), OL Dex Swiger (6-3, 270), LB Caden Lewis, DL Wesley Barker, LB Lane Nichols, OL Briggs Flood, WR/DB Nash Pannell, DL Grant McMullen.

2025 notes: After taking over in late May a year ago, Dudgeon believes a full offseason combined with a large group of returning players will result in a major step forward. WR/DB Carmichael and RB Pempsell will be crucial for the offense while GHS breaks in a new signal-caller. The calling card for the defense will be an experienced group of linebackers, led by LB Diaz, LB Mathis and LB Lewis.

HILLSBORO EAGLES (599.5)

Coach: Stephen Almuete. Lettermen R/L: 16/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Braylon Benson (5-9, 160), ATH Josimar Lopez (5-8, 150), WR/DB Jaylon Fennell (5-7, 150), TE/LB Jared Rivera, OL/DL Julian Hernandez (5-11, 240), OL Xavier Cook (6-3, 310), OL/DL Ulysses Lopez (5-9, 270), DL Javien Blue (5-11, 175), DB Luis Fuentes, LB Dominiq Ybarra, TE Josue Reyes, DT Trevor Clark, RB/LB Edward Ramirez, TE/DL Marco DeLuna, OL/DL Koldin Morris.

2025 notes: The Eagles stumbled into the playoffs

District 3-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jace Gill, Graham

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Colt Matlock, Brock

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Brock
2. Graham
3. Eagle Mountain
4. Mineral Wells
5. Burkburnett
6. Bridgeport

2025 notes: The Steers took an enormous graduation hit and will lean on their program's stability as backups emerge. Gill moves from receiver to quarterback and will be a dual threat like his predecessor, Ty Thompson, was. Flores and Corley make the secondary a strength.

MINERAL WELLS RAMS (953)

Coach: Cody Worrell. Lettermen R/L: 16/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Trent Yowell (6-3, 215, 4.7), WR/DB Jaidun Fisher (6-0, 175, 4.6), RB/DB Jackson Hicks (5-11, 180, 4.6), LB Garrison Facticeau (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Javawn McKinney (6-4, 305, 5.0), OL/DL Evan Myrick (6-1, 245, 4.9), OL/DL Josiah Zapata (6-2, 290, 5.2), UTIL Barron Burkhall (6-4, 190, 4.6), RB/LB Jaxon Brown (5-11, 4.7), WR/DB Canon Ramsey, RB/DB Jordan Johnson, WR/DB Cannon Barnett, TE/DL Jaxon Cox, QB/LB Prestyn Ramirez, DB Gage Lawhorn, DL Elijah Johnson, OL/DL Matthew Waggoner.

2025 notes: Mineral Wells will rely on its offensive linemen and defense in Worrell's third season. DE Yowell and LB Facticeau are the defensive leaders, while DBs Fisher and Hicks return in the secondary but will also be counted on to fill offensive roles.

BENBROOK BOBCATS (885)

Coach: Cody Slater. Lettermen R/L: 15/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 11-2 region semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Brennan Barton (6-0, 175, 4.9), WR DeShawn Deane (6-2, 180, 4.5), RB Carlos Harris (5-11, 185, 4.6), WR/CB Waylin Barton (6-1, 175, 4.6), RB/DE Jacob Carpenter (6-2, 215, 4.7), RB/LB Desmond Chambers (5-10, 190, 4.6), WR/LB Austin Cross (6-3, 190, 4.6), OL Griffin Womack (6-3, 240), WR/FS Evan Smith (5-11, 165, 4.5), DT Zackery Burks, WR/FS Will Cook, WR/LB Gavyn Lambert, WR Dorian Johnson, LB Ethan Tucker, RB/LB Aide Carpenter.

2025 notes: Benbrook looks to keep its place among contenders in Region I. There's lots of skill talent back with QB Barton, RB Harris and WR Deane, but BHS has a lot of holes to fill in the trenches. RB/LB Chambers and RB/DE Carpenter will lead what should be an improved defense.

DUNBAR WILDCATS (897)

Coach: Todd Lawson. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Marcus McDade (6-1, 170, 4.6), RB Kameron Lloyd (5-10, 165, 4.5), LB Ethan Warren (6-0, 220, 4.6), DE Tristen Green (6-0, 215, 4.7), OL Zion Williams (6-8, 360), OL Kymori Moore (6-1, 245), WR Detrick James (5-11, 155, 4.5), QB Bryce Allen (5-9, 165, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Wildcats expect to be back in the playoff mix in 2025 with the return of veteran QB McDade, who missed his junior year with an injury. RB Lloyd is also back after missing much of 2024 with a knee injury. Dunbar's defense will be anchored by a pair of pass rushers in LB Warren and DE Green; both are speedy and dynamic playmakers that can make life miserable for opposing QBs. "If we can stay healthy, we have a chance to make waves," said Lawson.

GLEN ROSE TIGERS (617)

Coach: Cliff Watkins. Lettermen R/L: 12/20. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: TE/LB Ryder Ribitzki (6-3, 210), QB Luke Males (5-10, 165), OL Clark Anderson (6-5, 320),

a year ago and Almuete hopes a veteran defense with good speed can be the catalyst to a postseason return. RB/LB Benson may spend the vast majority of his time on offense in 2025 - "as he goes, we go," said Almuete. ATH Lopez was a first-team all-district pick and will have a chance to win the QB job this season.

VENUS BULLDOGS (713)

Coach: J'Maris Dixon. Lettermen R/L: 16/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Andrew Renteria (5-10, 255), RB/DL Braylon Allen (6-0, 220, 4.9), RB/LB Miguel Estrada (5-8, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Chase Green (5-10, 160, 4.9), RB/LB Zabian Castro (5-8, 170, 4.9), OL/DL Jayden Antone (6-0, 230), RB/LB Gage Hoag (5-9, 160, 4.8), TE/DL Zion McPhee (6-2, 205, 4.9), OL Hector Vargas (6-1, 300), QB Cayden Lucas, WR/DB Michael Cansler, OL Colton Dady.

2025 notes: New coach Dixon was promoted to the big chair in late May, and the hope for the Bulldogs is incremental improvement. Two-way players RB/DL Allen and RB/LB Estrada return to pace the Slot-T offensive attack. They'll operate behind a veteran group on the offensive line.

District 4-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Brennan Barton, Fort Worth Benbrook

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Ryder Ribitzki, Glen Rose

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Glen Rose
2. Godley
3. Ft. Worth Benbrook
4. Ft. Worth Dunbar
5. Hillsboro
6. Venus

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BONHAM PURPLE WARRIORS (560)

Coach: John Ramsey. Lettermen R/L: 14/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Brynlee Owens, OL/DL Landyn Reeves, OL/DL Charlie Thompson, RB/DE Devin Pittman, RB/LB Jaelynn Richards, OL/DL Colton Lawrence.

Top junior: RB/DB Colton Conallis.

2025 notes: The Purple Warriors struggled moving back up to Class 4A, but 13 returning starters give Ramsey confidence BHS will be an improved team. QB/DB Owens is an operator of the Wing-T offensive attack and will work behind veteran two-way linemen Reeves and Thompson. RB/DE Pittman and RB/LB Richards will be among several potential guys who can tote the mail. Bonham is one of the state's smaller 4A schools, so depth will still be a concern.

CADDO MILLS FOXES (733)

Coach: Kodi Crane. Lettermen R/L: 31/23. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: S Tripp Welch (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR Tristan Hardwell (5-10, 165, 4.7), LB Gavin Beierschmitt (5-9, 180, 4.8), ATH Mikey Grant (5-7, 155, 4.6), S Corbin Kemp (5-10, 165, 4.8), OL LBJ Weatherford (6-0, 290). Top juniors: WR Kolin Heath (6-0, 170, 4.7), OL Luke Westmoreland (5-10, 280).

Other prospects: RB Wyatt Watson, CB Alex Tovar, DT Michael Ortiz, DE Israel Verde, WR Steven Stiggers, QB Jayton Mulkey, QB Colton Ponton, RB/FS Braeden Vann.

2025 notes: The Foxes have good depth at the skill spots with the return of WRs Hadwell (49-697, 6 TDs receiving) and Heath (26-385, 5 TDs receiving), while OLs Weatherford and Westmoreland are the anchors up front. S Welch (78 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack, 2 INTs) and LB Beierschmitt (74 tackles, 6 TFL, 1 sack) will lead a defense that will have to answer questions up front where there's plenty of inexperience.

FARMERSVILLE FARMERS (669)

Coach: Zac Quinlan. Lettermen R/L: 19/19. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Amare Warren (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Justin Queneau (6-1, 280), QB Levi McAbee (5-8, 160, 4.6), LB Rylan Mitchell (6-1, 190, 4.8), DL Triffan Greene (6-3, 220), RB Gordon Swartz (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: RB/DB Ra'Jaun Wilkes (5-10, 165, 4.8), TE/DL Cooper Horne (5-10, 205, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB/DB Sebastian Redwine (5-8, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Ethan Stone, TE/LB Sam Stone, LB Cade Ellis, OL/DL Jered Vanderburg, K Christian Aguilar, OL/DL Giovanni Cobarrubio, OL/DL Hayden Grabowski, TE/LB Nate Clark.

2025 notes: The Farmers posted their first playoff win since 2016 a year ago and there's a good nucleus of talent back to put Quinlan's squad in the discussion for a district title. QB McAbee (2,220 yards, 21 TDs passing) had a big sophomore season and his top target is WR Warren (39-799, 7 TDs receiving). RB Swartz (1,225 yards, 17 TDs rushing) will pace the ground game, while LB Ellis (111 tackles) leads a veteran defensive unit.

GAINESVILLE LEOPARDS (872)

Coach: Neil Searcy. Lettermen R/L: 23/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: TE/DE Julien Quinones (6-4, 230, 4.7), TE/DE Bugg Kead (6-3, 230, 4.7), TE/DE Kaden Scott (6-1, 240, 4.6), RB/CB Kaison Seatherton (5-8, 155, 4.6), WR/S Peyton Mathews (5-10, 165, 4.6), QB/S Stryker Johnson (5-11, 155, 4.6). Top juniors: RB/LB Weston Shoemaker (5-10, 165, 4.8), WR/CB Demetric Bruce (5-9, 155, 4.6). Top sophomore: RB/LB Edgar Barton (5-10, 185, 4.7).

Other prospects: QB/S Jamal Davis, DE Jackson Otis, OL/DL Jeffrey Dempsey, OL/DL Zeke Battle, OL/DL Jayden Pinales, OL/DL Travis Burnett, WR/DB BJ Cook.

2025 notes: It was a tough season for Gainesville, which fell to just a single win a year ago. Searcy says his team played a lot of young guys in 2024, so improvement should be expected. The defensive line is the strength with two-way standouts in Quinones (112 tackles) and Scott (6 sacks) back in the fold. TE/DE Kemp (35-890, 8 TDs receiving)

District 5-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Levi McAbee, Farmersville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Max Taylor, Sanger

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Sanger | 5. Caddo Mills |
| 2. Van Alstyne | 6. Gainesville |
| 3. Farmersville | 7. Bonham |
| 4. Krum | |

is a dynamic red-zone target and will also be a contributor on defense.

KRUM BOBCATS (754)

Coach: Chris Taber. Lettermen R/L: 24/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Lane Larson (6-2, 185, 4.6), TE/DE Casen Fitts (6-5, 200, 4.9), OL/DL Luis Gonzalez (6-0, 260), RB/LB Mateo Gonzalez (5-9, 175, 4.6), QB/DB Elijah Guerrero (5-9, 170, 4.6), RB Will Holland (6-0, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/DB Sean Welcome (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Brayton Distasio (6-0, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DE Hudson James, LB Daniel Holt, DE Abdul Dosunmu, WR/DB Aiden Baker, OL Parker Richardson, QB/DB Casen Payne, DL Frankie Montez, RB/DB Carter Hollingshead.

2025 notes: Krum picked up its first playoff win since 2016 last year, and new head coach Chris Taber will inherit a veteran squad. WR/DB Larson (61-1,377, 12 TDs receiving) is a force who can make plays all over the field, while QB/DB Guerrero (33-440, 5 TDs receiving; 47 tackles) likely moves to QB after playing WR/DB a year ago. RB/LB Gonzalez (164 tackles, 9 TFL, 5 sacks) had a monster junior campaign and leads the defense.

SANGER INDIANS (849)

Coach: Chad Rogers. Lettermen R/L: 35/8. Starters returning O/D: 10/6. 2024: 4-6/3-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Alex Zuniga (6-1, 280), RB Reggie Jones (5-11, 165, 4.5), ATH Austin Martin (5-9, 145, 4.5), LB Max Taylor (6-0, 185, 4.7), DB Luke Hendricks (6-0, 165, 4.6), WR Joel Rodriguez (6-1, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Wyatt Pennington (6-4, 175, 4.8), RB/DB Bola Ogunwuyi (6-2, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/DB Chris Ramirez (5-8, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB Reed Sebastian, OL Zane Garcia, DB Jaise Jackson, OL Camden Turbeville, DL JJ Mikas, TE/LB Creedon Boerner, WR Levi Hendricks, LB Arie Watson.

2025 notes: Sanger has a case for being the tough luck team of 2024. The Indians missed the playoffs with three district losses by a combined four points. RB Jones (1,483 yards, 15 TDs rushing) and ATH Martin (450 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 17-113, 2 TDs receiving) are big-time playmakers, while OL Zuniga is one of the area's most underrated linemen. Junior LB Taylor (88 tackles, 3 TFL, 2 sacks, 2 INTs) was the district defensive newcomer of the year in 2024.

VAN ALSTYNE PANTHERS (673)

Coach: Mikeal Miller. Lettermen R/L: 22/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Tim Moore (6-2, 175, 4.5), QB/DB Brayden Miller (6-0, 180, 4.6). Top junior: WR/LB Cayden Benedict (5-8, 150, 4.7). Top sophomore: Xavier Vidaaurri (5-9, 200, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/DE Rhett Smith, WR/LB Jax Hubble.

2025 notes: The Panthers rolled to a district title and a playoff victory a year ago before falling to Van in the area playoffs in a 45-42 classic. A good group of seniors graduated, but there's a lot to feel good about with 22 lettermen back and help from a 10-0 JV squad. WR/DB Moore (22-484, 8 TDs receiving) is a game-changer on the outside, while QB/DB Miller (372 yards, 4 TDs passing) takes over the offense full-time.



James COPELAND
LB
Bay City



Lincoln MADRID
QB
Midland Greenwood



Caton CRAMER
ATH
Seminole



James BOZEMAN
RB
Lubbock



Justin FOX
LB
Eagle Mountain



Jace GILL
QB
Graham



Brennan BARTON
QB
Fort Worth Benbrook



Ryder RIBITZKI
TE/LB
Glen Rose

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

High School
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CANTON EAGLES (682)

Coach: Heath Ragle. Lettermen R/L: 13/21. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Cort Ray (6-0, 175, 4.9), DE Calan O'Neill (6-0, 190, 4.9), RB Conrad Bastien (6-1, 180, 4.7), DB Lathan Pruitt (5-10, 155, 4.7), WR Ethan Lewis (6-1, 150, 4.8), WR Cason French (6-1, 165, 4.8). Top juniors: RB Austin Tawater (5-7, 155, 4.6), OL Kelin Woods (5-10, 270). Top sophomore: OL/DL Jaxon Gatlin (6-2, 275).

Other prospects: DL Trey Martin, OL Rylan Broyles, OL Clive Bilberry, DB Jacob Ecord, DB Carson Hawkins, WR Josh Wilson, RB/LB Izeah Ferraro, TE Lane Sides.

2025 notes: The Eagles had a strong 2024 season, but a big chunk of production was lost to graduation. Sophomore ATH Ray (152 yards, 2 TDs passing; 272 yards, 1 TD rushing) was defensive newcomer of the year as a freshman and will likely move to QB full-time. DL O'Neill (53 tackles, 12 TFL, 5 sacks) and DB Pruitt (6 INTs) will lead a rebuilt defense. Ragle says only one junior started last year, so youth will be a big concern as fall camp starts.

FERRIS YELLOWJACKETS (888)

Coach: Tony Castillo. Lettermen R/L: 23/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH David Hanson (6-1, 210, 4.8), WR/SS Anthony Jantes (6-3, 190, 4.7), OL Francisco Rodriguez Jr. (6-6, 280), WR/DB Adam Sasser (5-9, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Savian Daniels (6-2, 160, 4.7), RB/DE Robert Quigley (6-2, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB Adrian Merino (5-9, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB/LB Javon Jefferson, WR/LB Omari Tyner, TE/DL Terrus Hardy, OL/DL Reginald Pate, OL/DL Oscar Balderas, OL/DL Brenden Lockhart, DB DJ Delasbour.

2025 notes: The 'Jackets were able to slip into the playoffs in Castillo's first year at the helm. With 23 lettermen returning, Ferris could be ready to do some damage in 2025. ATH Hanson (39 tackles) may move to QB this year but will still see spot duty on defense. WR/SS Jantes (9-101, 1 TD receiving; 55 tackles) will be a key two-way standout for FHS, as well. Castillo says experience in the trenches is a plus, but they are looking for young skill players to step up.

KEMP YELLOWJACKETS (590)

Coach: BJ Rider. Lettermen R/L: 11/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Huston Cromer (6-1, 195), RB Maddox Henderson (5-10, 190), OL/DL Aiden Kilgore (5-10, 210), TE/LB Nathan Dunn (5-11, 185), OL/DL Abel Gallegos (5-11, 230).

2025 notes: Kemp made the move up to 4A Division II and found the footing difficult as the 'Jackets failed to get a win in district play. Experience on offense should be a strength with the return of QB Cromer (891 yards, 5 TDs passing; 440 yards, 9 TDs rushing) and RB Henderson. Kemp's defense is led by hard-hitting LB Dunn (34 tackles, 4 sacks). According to Rider, a lack of depth, most notably in the trenches, is the biggest concern heading into the fall.

QUINLAN FORD PANTHERS (817)

Coach: Todd Wallace. Lettermen R/L: 13/17. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 7-4 4A DII bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Payton Wallen (6-3, 230, 4.9), RB/DB Mason Tighe (5-10, 155, 4.6), RB/DB Devon Williams (5-11, 160, 4.6), OL Franklin Davis (5-9, 250), DE Belcar Soto (6-1, 190), LB Emmanuel Sevilla (5-8, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: DE Stone Warren (6-0, 180, 4.7), RB/DB Tyler Andrews (6-0, 170, 4.7).

District 6-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Cayson Maupin, Sunnyvale

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Belcar Soto, Quinlan Ford

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Sunnyvale
2. Quinlan Ford
3. Ferris
4. Canton
5. Wills Point
6. Kemp

Other prospects: RB/DB James Barker, LB Raythen Capps, DE Chase Geiger, RB Trevin Sisco, RB Zander Sharp, OL/DL Beau Pierce, LB Colten Huggett.

2025 notes: Ford has its eyes on a district title with seven defensive starters back, plus help from an 8-2 JV squad. QB Wallen (715 yards, 5 TDs passing; 472 yards, 7 TDs rushing) is the operator of the Fly-T offense and has two key cogs back in junior RB/DB Tighe (608 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 158 yards, 1 TD receiving) and sophomore RB/DB Williams (518 yards, 10 TDs rushing). DE Soto (62 tackles, 13 TFL) is a three-year starter and leads the defense.

SUNNYVALE RAIDERS (733)

Coach: Cody Stutts. Lettermen R/L: 33/20. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Cayson Maupin (6-0, 175, 4.7), WR/S Drew Gardner (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL/DL KC Ekwu (6-4, 295), RB/LB Jaden Cross (5-11, 190, 4.6), LB Austin Helton (5-11, 195, 4.8), K/P Gabe Pendyala (5-11, 165). Top juniors: WR/CB Hudson Leonard (6-3, 180, 4.6), LB Grayson Smith (6-3, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB/S Aydin Brown (5-10, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Cooper Eastman, DE Rashaad Grant, OL Josh Burleson, TE/DE Jude Miles, CB Cline Becker, LB Caden Lucas, WR/CB Ben Griffin, WR/CB Paul Griffin.

2025 notes: The Raiders pushed through to the third round of the playoffs a year ago and could be ready to make even more noise in 2025 with seven starters back on both sides of the ball. Junior QB Maupin (2,991 yards, 41 TDs passing; 461 yards, 5 TDs rushing) returns after a sensational sophomore season as one of the state's most underrated signal-callers. WR/S Gardner (23-378, 6 TDs receiving; 119 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 sack, 6 INTs) is a force on both sides of the ball.

WILLS POINT TIGERS (860)

Coach: James Boxley. Lettermen R/L: 15/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-5/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Brian Martinez (5-9, 165, 4.6), DT Weston Weber (6-0, 235), OL Colten Reyna (6-1, 275), WR/CB Grayson Mixon (5-11, 165, 4.7), RB/DE Ashtin Miles (6-2, 240, 4.8), OL Preston Jeane (5-11, 265). Top juniors: RB/LB Michael Baker (5-10, 175, 4.9), QB Tanner Maddox (6-1, 175, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jax King (6-0, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/LB Reese Peterson, OL Luis Olvera, LB Caleb Murrell, OL Benito Oviedo, LB Jacob Venable, OL Chris Board, RB/DB Landon Ortiz, OL Dawson De Los Santos.

2025 notes: After winning just two games between 2020 and 2022, Wills Point has established itself as a competitive squad the past two seasons. This year's team will be a bit younger and several new faces will need to step into key roles. WR Martinez (29-397, 7 TDs receiving) had a strong junior season and returns to lead the offense. DT Weber (37 tackles) was a first-team all-district pick and will lead the WPHS defense.



Huston CROMER
QB
Kemp



Cayson MAUPIN
QB
Sunnyvale



Tyler HAGLER
DL
Gilmer



David RICHARDSON
QB
Athens



Micah SKAGGS
QB
Bullard



Jett SURRATT
QB
Carthage



Jeremy BLUFORD
RB/DB
Center



Jacaleb JOHNSON
ATH
Silsbee

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

GILMER BUCKEYES (848)

Coach: Alan Metzel. Lettermen R/L: 24/31. Starters returning: 1/3. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Tyler Hagler (6-0, 325, 5.4), OL Ismael Camara (6-6, 350, 5.2), DL Jet Bates (6-1, 200, 4.8), WR Trace Haynes (6-2, 170, 4.6), DL/TE Davion King (6-1, 265, 5.1), WR Solomon Jackson (5-11, 182), WR Amare Garrett (6-1, 183, 4.7), QB/RB Zade Taylor (5-6, 178, 4.7), WR Gauge Trossbach (5-7, 160, 4.7), OL Chance Walker, DL Mac Granville, OL Rashaad Buchanan.

2025 notes: The Buckeyes won eight games and went two rounds deep in the playoffs, but in Gilmer that's considered a down season. Veteran coach Metzel believes his team will compete for a district title, and it all starts up front with the return of Hagler on defense and earth-mover Camara on offense. Taylor played both ways as a sophomore and will be in the mix for the QB job.

NORTH LAMAR PANTHERS (671)

Coach: Carlos Guevara. Lettermen R/L: 4/5. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Kai Furch (6-2, 170), WR Kenton Gray (6-3, 170), OL Tyler Silva (6-3, 240), WR/DB Keylan Gray (6-0, 175), OL Korbyn Liggins (6-0, 230), DB Dallas Foster (6-2, 170).

2025 notes: The Panthers dipped from five wins in 2023 to managing just one victory a year ago. New coach Guevara, promoted from OC, will try to get them back on track. Furch was solid as a sophomore, and Kenton Gray is a big target with lots of potential. Liggins returns to lead the defense.

PITTSBURG PIRATES (674)

Coach: John Huffstetter. Lettermen R/L: 20/10. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: DB/WR Dayle Jones (5-10, 165, 4.5), QB Kord Johnson (6-0, 195, 4.6), OL/DL Tyrell Wilson (6-2, 275), RB/LB Lane Hall (5-8, 200, 4.5), DB/RB Toribio Wills (5-8, 170, 4.6), WR/DB Nick Styles (6-2, 185), WR/DB Camdyn Duddy (5-10, 160), LB/FB Tormarion Willis (5-9, 200), LB Will Strube, PK Alan

Ramirez, LB Jamie Villegas, DL Amari Grant, DB Itzael Falcon, RB/DB Braeden Lafayette, DL Eli Mackey.

2025 notes: The Pirates made a coaching change after a 1-9 season, and new man Huffstetter likes the playmakers he's inherited. Jones has playmaking ability in all three phases of the game, and QB Johnson is a team leader with an unmatched desire to win. Wilson is an explosive, athletic big man who'll be a force on both sides, and Duddy is a four-sport athlete who can play anywhere and is on track for an explosive season.

PLEASANT GROVE HAWKS (754)

Coach: Josh Gibson. Lettermen R/L: 32/7. Starters returning: 9/8. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Kedrid Smith (6-3, 225, 4.6), DB Jamarion Richardson (6-0, 165, 4.5), WR Kamdyn Harris (6-3, 195, 4.6), RB Nick Bells (5-8, 170, 4.5), QB Colt Yancey (6-2, 220), DB Jaidun Scales (6-1, 195, 4.6), DL Jaylen Foster (6-0, 200, 4.6), DL Dekori Cranford (6-4, 265, 4.9), OL Jayden Withered (6-4, 305), OL Jonah Womack, DL KJ Greer, OL Julian Tobey, WR Roland Richie, DS Eli Halton, LB Buck Anderson, LB Jace Elrod, HB Kenmarion Jones, LB Terrell Pattin.

2025 notes: The Hawks are loaded for a title run. RB Bells is explosive and has great hands. Junior QB Yancey was first-team all-district at Whitewright last season. The defense should again be solid with the return of Smith, Scales and Foster.

SPRING HILL PANTHERS (610)

Coach: Brandon Joslin. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning: 9/6. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Travis Allen (6-2, 180, 4.7), RB Coleman Stout (5-10, 205, 4.6), DL Josh Otujor (6-1, 250, 5.1), LB Noah Weber (5-7, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: RB Quentin Cutler, DL Brock Norris. Top sophomore: QB Brody Proctor, OL Dean McDougal, DL Cole Jackson, RB/DB Joseph Ventura, OL Bailey Mason, OL Silas Mackey, LB Tristan Congdon, WR Hudson Bartell.

2025 notes: Depth is a concern for a team that plays in a district with perennial powerhouses Gilmer and

Tyler Kittrell (6-2, 205, 4.8), LB Conner Kindel (6-1, 190, 4.8), DB Jonah Hunter (6-3, 200, 4.6), RB Luke Stegall (5-8, 180, 4.7), OL William Scroggins (6-6, 300, 5.7), LB/RB Jayke Jones (6-2, 180, 4.4), WR Peyton Stanley (6-1, 160, 4.6), RB/DB Tucker Stainback (5-11, 170, 4.5), OL Caiden Taylor, WR/DB Gavin Skaggs, RB Grayson Dean, OL John Wilson, WR/X Zayvier Austin, DL Landon Paddack, DL Ben Villani, DL Jacoby Clayborne.

2025 notes: Bradford thinks his team can be a surprise this season if they stay healthy. Expect QB Skaggs to be more of a passing threat this season. Expect a big season from DB Hunter (31 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 sack, 2 INTs), and keep an eye on OL Scroggins the next two years.

CARTHAGE BULLDOGS (788)

Coach: Scott Surratt. Lettermen R/L: 28/11. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 15-1 state champion/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Jett Surratt (6-1, 175, 4.7), RB KJ Edwards (5-11, 185, 4.3), LB Daquives Beck (6-2, 215, 4.6), LB Carson Crawford (6-3, 205, 4.5), WR Keyman Henderson (6-4, 190, 4.5), WR/DB JD Edwards.

2025 notes: The defending champs took a big hit up front on both sides of the ball, but the cupboard isn't exactly bare. QB Surratt (3,378 yards, 53 TDs passing), RB Edwards (1,785 yards, 23 TDs rushing; 31-382 yards, 3 TDs receiving) and WR Henderson (64-1,085 yards, 18 TDs receiving) will be hard to handle, and LBs Beck (102 tackles, 21 TFL, 5 sacks) and Crawford (91 tackles, 22 TFLs, 9 sacks) are solid holdovers on defense.

CENTER ROUGHRIDERS (737)

Coach: Nick Brown. Lettermen R/L: 20/15. Starters returning: 6/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Jeremy Bluford (6-0, 175, 4.5), OL JaCorey Smith (6-5, 400), QB/LB Easton Wulf (5-10, 180, 4.7), LB Cody Adkinson (6-0, 210, 4.7), OL Jamie Jenkins (5-11, 300).

2025 notes: Replacing a QB/WR combo that connected for more than 1,300 yards and 21 TDs won't be easy, but the Roughriders return numbers and size on the OL with Smith and Jenkins to block

District 7-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Nick Bells, Pleasant Grove

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Tyler Hagler, Gilmer

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Tex. Pleasant Grove | 5. Pittsburg |
| 2. Gilmer | 6. Paris North Lamar |
| 3. Van | |
| 4. Longview Spring Hill | |

Pleasant Grove, but the Panthers run the ball well and that always keeps them in games. QB Allen is back to lead the offense, and Otujor, Weber and Norris are solid holdovers on the defensive side.

VAN VANDALS (779)

Coach: Jared Moffatt. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning: 4/5. 2024: 10-4 region finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Waylon King (5-10, 190), OL Collier Bryant (5-11, 260), OL Landon Robinson (6-1, 290), WR Aidan Willis (5-10, 170), LB Boston Blaylock (5-9, 170), OL Karter Broyles (6-1, 245), DB/RB DaQuavian Williams (6-0, 165), DB/WR Blaise Lineberry (5-10, 160), OL Jayse Wilson (6-3, 275), DB Ian Hopson, TE/QB Ryder Savage, DL Oliver Stowe, QB Rawly Hinch, LB Carter Admire, DL Tiler Williams, OL Reed Haltom, DB/QB Parker Rainey.

2025 notes: Graduation wasn't kind to the Vandals, but the freshman and JV teams both went 9-1 and veterans Bryant, Robinson and Broyles return on the OL to maintain order until a new QB and productive WRs settle into those positions. DL King, LB Blaylock and DB Hopson are key holdovers on the defensive side of the ball. Keep an eye on big sophomore Wilson.

ATHENS HORNETS (873)

Coach: Zac Harrell. Lettermen R/L: 24/16. Starters returning: 10/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB David Richardson (6-2, 205, 4.6), LB Ja'bory Taylor (6-1, 225, 4.7), DL Jayden Davis (6-0, 280), WR Julius Brewer (5-10, 170, 4.5), LB Eli Carnes (5-11, 210, 4.8), WR E'manuel Moore (6-2, 175, 4.6), DB Gerren Lee-Brown (6-2, 170, 4.6), DB Satchel Williams (5-10, 165, 4.7), DB Charli Kiser (5-9, 165, 4.7), DE Charles Livingston, OL Brandon Casas, OL Jose Pimentel, OL Gus Wickel, DB Rhys Groom, WR Cody Carter, OL Aiden Robinson, WR Jayvian Taylor.

2025 notes: With back-to-back winning seasons in the books, veteran coach Harrell believes the Hornets are in line to have a breakthrough campaign in 2025. QB Richardson (1,622 yards, 22 TDs passing; 278 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense, and has solid weapons in WR Brewer (60-559 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and Moore (55-789 yards, 10 TDs receiving). LB Carnes (114 tackles, 15 TFL) is a tackling machine.

BROWNSBORO BEARS (775)

Coach: Lance Connot. Lettermen R/L: 15/13. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Gabe Hendrix (5-9, 155, 4.6), QB Adam Thompson (5-10, 165, 4.7), LB Jack Anderson (6-1, 220, 4.9), RB Curtis Warren (5-11, 170, 4.5), LB Cade Williams (6-0, 190, 4.9), Abriam Aldendorf (5-10, 280), LB Nicholas Byrd (5-11, 175, 4.9), LB Aiden Whitton, WR Jack Adame, WR Roland Redic, OL Cameron Strait.

2025 notes: Connot believes explosive speed at the skill positions and the linebacker corps will help turn things around. WR Hendrix (43-558, 7 TDs receiving) is a scoring threat from anywhere, and QB Thompson (1,393 yards, 11 TDs passing) is back to lead things from under center. LB Anderson (104 tackles, 2 sacks) returns after a solid 2024 campaign.

BULLARD PANTHERS (891)

Coach: Colt Bradford. Lettermen R/L: 16/28. Starters returning: 4/3. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Micah Skaggs (6-1, 180, 4.6), LB

for RB Bluford (987 yards, 10 TDs rushing). Wulf (100 tackles) is a fast, physical leader who'll take on a larger role, and Adkinson (156 tackles, 42 TFL, 7 sacks) was an absolute menace to opposing offenses.

RUSK EAGLES (603)

Coach: Cody Welch. Lettermen R/L: 22/18. Starters returning: 6/4. 2024: 2-8/1-4.

Players to watch: WR/DB Adrian Tumblin (5-11, 185, 4.5), RB/DB Drew Lane (5-10, 175, 4.5), RB Vandorian Horn (5-11, 180, 4.6), OL Trent Gray (6-3, 250, 4.9), LB Daiden Peery (5-11, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: DL Matthew Stovall (6-2, 230, 5.0), OL/DL Zaccius Francis (5-8, 220, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Bentley Moore (5-9, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Elijah McDuff, WR/DB Jayden Burton, LB Trenton Pepin.

2025 notes: The Eagles are deep at the skill positions, but must fix a defense that gave up 48, 49 and 37 points in the final three weeks of the season (albeit to potent offenses in Athens, Carthage and Center). Tumblin has good size and speed to become a key weapon on offense, and Lane and Horn could be a solid 1-2 punch at RB. Gray and Stovall provide good size up front for the Eagles.

District 8-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB KJ Edwards, Carthage

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Daquives Beck, Carthage

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Carthage | 5. Rusk |
| 2. Athens | 6. Brownsboro |
| 3. Center | |
| 4. Bullard | |

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A
HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

HAMSHIRE-FANNETT LONGHORNS (620)

Coach: Mark Waggoner. Lettermen R/L: 15/22. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 10-2 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Pierce Pirtle (5-11, 200, 4.6), OL/DT Landon Battise (6-5, 350), CB Maliki Adams (6-0, 165, 4.6), ATH Isaiah Reed (6-2, 195, 4.5), TE/DE Jack Sjodin (6-3, 225, 4.7), WR/DB Jonathan Stanley (5-9, 155, 4.5). Top juniors: ATH Travis Thompson (5-9, 150, 4.5), WR/DB Sage Gilder (5-8, 145, 4.5). Top sophomore: WR Dwayne Long (5-10, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: QB Blake Broussard, K Jesus Sandoval, LB Britten Baucum, TE Carter Romero, OL Lleyton Lawrence, OL/DL Camaron Lornette, OL Brody Dennis, DT Ryder Roebuck.

2025 notes: The Longhorns lost a great senior class, but the cupboard isn't bare as help from a 9-0 JV squad is ready to make an impact. ATH Pirtle (237 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 72-856, 11 TDs receiving; 42 tackles, 1 INT) is a four-year starter who can do it all for the 'Horns. ATH Reed (494 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 11-194, 2 TDs receiving; 45 tackles) is another multi-talented performer to watch. CB Adams (42 tackles, 6 INTs) is a shutdown corner on defense.

JASPER BULLDOGS (673)

Coach: Kendrick Crumedy. Lettermen R/L: 21/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Raja Garza-Adams (6-0, 170, 4.6), RB/DB Payton Brooks (5-9, 180, 4.6), DL Larry Simmons (6-1, 260), RB/DL Donnell Beatty (5-10, 210), OL Jordan Blair (6-2, 250). Top juniors: LB Jer'Camaron Elam (5-10, 205, 4.7), RB/DB Anthony Fountain Jr. (5-9, 190, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Major Armstrong (5-9, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Micah Parks, WR/DB Cash Womack, RB/LB Kivon Twine.

2025 notes: Crumedy says depth is still a concern going into 2025, but he believes the veteran pieces in place are enough for the Bulldogs to improve. WR/DB Garza-Adams (52-1,044, 13 TDs receiving) is a four-year starter who is "an amazing contested ball receiver," according to Crumedy. Watch out for a pair of young players who could take a step forward in junior LB Elam (59 tackles, 6 TFL) and sophomore ATH Armstrong (31 tackles, 2 INTs).

SHEPHERD PIRATES (630.5)

Coach: Miles Robison. Lettermen R/L: 15/13. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Brayden White (6-4, 250, 4.9), QB Landen Dellinger (5-11, 165, 4.6), RB/DB Javaris Marsh (5-11, 175, 4.6), RB/LB Jacorey Davis (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Eduardo Jaime (6-0, 180, 4.6), WR Tyler Scifres (6-2, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: DL Michael Weekes (6-1, 270), OL Aaron Garcia (6-0, 280).

Other prospects: WR Marshall Reeves, ATH Kyler Syracuse, RB Benjamin Croyle.

2025 notes: Robison says the graduation of the school's all-time leading rusher and several good offensive linemen leave question marks heading into 2025, but the defense, especially on the line, will be a strength. TE/DL White is a two-way first-team all-district selection, while QB Dellinger is back after posting over 1,200 yards of offense. Robison says junior RB/DB Marsh could be an impact player on both sides of the ball.

SILSBEЕ TIGERS (825)

Coach: Randy Smith. Lettermen R/L: 27/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jacaleb Johnson (6-2, 195, 4.5), OL/DL Kyle Walker (6-2, 275), RB/LB Matsyn

District 9-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Khelvy Jefferson, West Orange-Stark

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Matsyn Morris, Silsbee

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. West Orange-Stark
2. Silsbee
3. Hampshire-Fannett
4. Jasper
5. Shepherd
6. Cleveland Tarkington

Morris (5-8, 175, 4.7), TE/LB Kyler Smith (6-4, 225), TE/LB Levin Powell (6-0, 220, 4.6), ATH Ty'Zavion Hafford (5-8, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: OL Hunter Smith (6-3, 300), OL Noah Marek (6-2, 255). Top sophomore: ATH Haegyn Morris (5-11, 195, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DL Landon Lee, OL Zackary Roberts, OL Kaden Fasulo, RB/LB Keven Eaglin, WR/DB Julian Brown, WR/DB Cedrick Jones, LB Jaden Hicks, RB/DB Braylen Johnson.

2025 notes: In what was supposed to be a rebuilding year, the Tigers hauled off and made a run to the regional semifinals and could be poised to challenge in Region III. ATH Johnson is as electric as it gets with the ball in his hands and will be utilized all over the field. SHS has a veteran offensive line that should be among the best in the state. RB/LB Morris (167 tackles) is the anchor of a veteran defensive unit.

TARKINGTON LONGHORNS (552)

Coach: Toby Belt. Lettermen R/L: 20/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Collin Pearson (5-10, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Wade Wright (6-0, 215, 4.7), OL Parker Hoeber (6-4, 230). Top junior: ATH Toby Reams (5-10, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/DB Kaleb Reams (5-9, 150, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Longhorns struggled in their first year back at the 4A level and Belt is hoping 20 returning lettermen can put Tarkington in position for improvement. WR/DB Pearson doesn't get many targets in the flexbone offense, but he's an explosive playmaker who can make things happen. RB/LB Wright (94 tackles) is the leader of the defense and will be a factor running between the tackles. OL Hoeber is the anchor of a young offensive line.

WEST ORANGE-STARK MUSTANGS (656)

Coach: Hiawatha Hickman. Lettermen R/L: 21/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Khelvy Jefferson (5-3, 160, 4.5), LB Anterion Fontenot (5-9, 210, 4.8), OL Jady Rhodes (6-4, 315), LB Johnathan Johnson (5-11, 210, 4.9), DB Ja'Cuincy Walker (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL Johnny McGhee (6-3, 295). Top juniors: QB Kwalin Dugas (5-10, 160, 4.6), RB/DL Alexander Thomas (5-11, 210, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL Landen Gant (6-0, 300).

Other prospects: SS Arthur Hayes, RB/DB Dylan Myers, OL/DL Channing Larkin, OL/DL J'Terrion Levi, DB Jamorion Degay, DB Travon Williams, OL Cameron Adams.

2025 notes: After two straight seasons of just five wins, the Mustangs improved to 9-3 in 2024 and have their sights set on getting back to being a yearly statewide contender. RB Jefferson (1,229 yards, 18 TDs rushing) had a big sophomore season and is back to lead the way. LB Fontenot (122 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 sacks, 4 INTs) and LB Johnson (71 tackles, 3 sacks) are the top returning defenders. QB Dugas moves to offense after spending 2024 in the secondary.



**Mudassir
ABDULLAH**
RB/DB
West Columbia



**Jakorey
LEWIS**
OL
Bellville



**Oliver
GUNN**
DL/TE
La Grange



**Jabarie
THORNTON**
WR
Waco La Vega



**Brody
DELEON**
RB/DB
Lorena



**Brice
MCCURDY**
QB
Robinson



**Jamarion
VINCENT**
QB/DB/WR
Waco Connally



**Devonte
FOSTER**
QB/DB
Salado

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BROOKSHIRE ROYAL FALCONS (892)

Coach: Theadis Reagins. Lettermen R/L: 30/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: DT Tyler Lavallier (6-2, 285), OL Braylon Reado (6-7, 270), DB Jaylan Palmer (5-9, 170), LB Malik Hooker (6-0, 200), DT Broderick Burr (6-1, 285), DE Julius Gilmore (6-2, 245). Top junior: DB Bradon Douglas (5-9, 160). Top sophomore: QB Emory Oliver (5-10, 165).

Other prospects: WR Jaylon Johnson, WR Kaysi Fleming-Brown, OL Justus Dilworth, OL Izic Vega, OL Kaïen Buggs, DE Dawson Sullivan, LB Isiah Vaughn, LB Oziel Montoya.

2025 notes: The Falcons have the pieces to challenge for the district title as Reagins welcomes back 15 starters and 30 lettermen. DT Lavallier (65 tackles, 7 TFL, 8 sacks) and district defensive MVP DB Palmer (50 tackles, 6 INTs) headline the veteran defense. OL Reado is an FBS prospect along the offensive line and was an all-district selection, as well. The real question for Royal will be inexperience at QB and WR.

KATY HARMONY WILDCATS (790)

Coach: Richard Carnley. Lettermen R/L: 25/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: LB James Robinson (5-8, 160, 4.7), CB Santana Wheatfall (5-10, 160, 4.8), TE/LB Jordan Asafo-Adjei (6-3, 185, 4.8).

Other prospect: LB/K Sebastian Mussett.

2025 notes: After a tough debut into UIL football, Carnley believes an added year of experience for the 25 lettermen will be big as the Wildcats look to be a factor in the district race. LB Robinson and CB Wheatfall are the top playmakers on the defensive side of the ball, while TE/LB Asafo-Adjei is a two-way stalwart. The Wildcats will undoubtedly be better; the question is, to what degree?

LA MARQUE COUGARS (739)

Coach: Wade Oliphant. Lettermen R/L: 25/18. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: DL Kamaury Robinson (6-1, 220), ATH Dameon Smith (5-9, 175, 4.6), ATH Josh Minix (6-1, 170, 4.6), LB Brenden Harris (6-4, 200), TE Brandon Harris (6-2, 215), WR Je'Caryous Oliver (6-1, 180, 4.6), DB/WR Caden Ward (6-0, 170, 4.5). Top juniors: RB/DB Jaden Nelson (5-10, 180, 4.5), S Jamarcus Franklin (5-9, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Zaelen Munoz (6-2, 280).

Other prospects: RB Corey Hosea, WR Juilan Minix, OL Quinell Ross, OL Cavin Rhoads, RB Jacoby Haily, QB Aaron Walker, WR Darrick Edison, DL Jadan Roberson.

2025 notes: Oliphant says the Cougars are loaded with experience at nearly every position except for the QB spot, where a three-year starter graduated. DL Robinson (50 tackles, 3 sacks) is a three-year starter and the leader of the 3-4 defense along with LB Harris, who was second-team all-district. Sophomore ATH Smith found the end zone six times as a freshman and can play RB, WR, LB, DB, and he can return kicks.

SUGAR LAND HARMONY MUSTANGS (855)

Coach: Cody Dean. Lettermen R/L: 17/21. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Zubayr Green (6-1, 180, 4.7), LB Shawnwendell Hernandez (5-11, 205, 4.8), RB Pelumi John-Sobola (5-11, 165, 4.7), RB/LB Wahid Jernigan (5-7, 205, 4.9), WR/DB Ian Rogers (5-11, 155, 4.8).

2025 notes: It was a difficult first UIL campaign for the Mustangs as they failed to get a win, but Dean expects improvement with 14 returning starters. QB Green missed much of last season and his return will boost the offense. LB Hernandez will be a leader for the defense. "We have a lot of boys who have never played football before, so we will still have growing pains," said Dean, who lists depth at running back as a strength.

SWEENEY BULLDOGS (595)

Coach: Jay Seibert. Lettermen R/L: 10/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DT Blaine Truitt (6-0, 235), RB/LB Michael Robinson (5-10, 190, 4.8), OL/LB Keshawn Woolsey (6-1, 210, 4.9), LB Vance Smith (6-2, 225, 4.8), OL Holden Hopkins (6-3, 305), RB/DB Devin Fields (5-8, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: RB/LB Parker McCurdy (5-10, 170, 4.7), OL Albert Flores (6-2, 265). Top sophomore: QB/DB Jack Genella (6-0, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: After missing the playoffs in two straight seasons, Seibert guided the Bulldogs back to the playoffs a year ago. But many key contributors from that squad have graduated. Most of the skill players will be new, but there is experience up front, led by OL/DT Truitt (37 tackles, 11 TFL, 3 sacks), who will be a team captain. RB/LB Robinson was a key defensive contributor a year ago as a sophomore and will also be asked to be a factor on offense.

WEST COLUMBIA ROUGHNECKS (896.5)

Coach: Earnest Pena. Lettermen R/L: 23/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-1 district.

District 10-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Mudassir Abdullah, West Columbia

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Jaylan Palmer, Brookshire Royal

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Brookshire Royal | 5. Wharton |
| 2. West Columbia | 6. Katy Harmony |
| 3. Sweeny | 7. Sugar Land Harmony |
| 4. La Marque | |

Players to watch: RB/DB Mudassir Abdullah (6-0, 175, 4.6), RB/LB Braden Gilliam (5-6, 150, 4.5), WR/DB Logan Lewis (6-2, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Kristopher Alvarez (5-10, 180, 4.7), DL Ian Stewart (6-1, 245), QB Cade Thoe (5-9, 150, 4.7). Top juniors: RB/LB Korbyn Faulkner (6-2, 185, 4.7), OL Benjamin Bailes (5-10, 230).

Other prospects: DL Adyn Garza, RB/DB Xavier Boozy, OL Billy Williams, OL/DL Michael Keen, RB/LB Deondre Hart.

2025 notes: The Roughnecks' 2024 season was a smashing success as they earned just their second playoff victory since 2015, and with seven starters back on both sides of the ball, they could be even better in 2025. RB/DB Abdullah (1,178 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 259 yards, 1 TD receiving; 42 tackles, 3 INTs) is a monster on both sides of the ball, and Pena calls him "a difference maker." QB Thoe (926 yards, 7 TDs passing; 5 rushing TDs) is the operator of the 'Necks Wing-T offense.

WHARTON TIGERS (584)

Coach: Jason Haddock. Lettermen R/L: 19/16. Starters returning O/D: N/A. 2024: 5-5/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Ja'Keon Jackson (6-0, 170), OL Antonio Cuevas (5-10, 205), OL Derek Austin (5-10, 205), RB Brandon Sims Jr. (6-0, 195), WR Ja'Marion Beniot (5-9, 160), CB Chance Scott (5-9, 165).

2025 notes: The Tigers have shown steady improvement the past couple of seasons and new head coach Jason Haddock will look to keep that momentum going to guide WHS back to the playoffs. QB Jackson (1,218 yards, 20 TDs passing; 874 yards, 13 TDs rushing) is the returning district offensive MVP. His top weapon is RB Sims (525 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 306 yards, 4 TDs receiving). DL Austin was a first-team all-district selection, while CB Scott was second-team all-district. Those two will lead a relatively young defense.



Dameon SMITH
La Marque athlete

Photo Credit: Andy Tolbert

DC
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TEXAS FOOTBALL

DAVE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BELLVILLE BRAHMAS (741)

Coach: Grady Rowe. Lettermen R/L: 22/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL Jakorey Lewis (6-2, 265, 5.0), LB Adarius Hutchinson (6-0, 180, 4.5), DL Preston Daves (6-1, 255, 4.9), RB Travis Turner (6-0, 190, 4.5), TE Layne Grawunder (6-3, 220, 5.0), DB Don Gillum (5-10, 160, 4.6), DB/LB Rody Luera (5-10, 170, 4.6), DL Brogan Stoner, DB Will Grebe, OL Ricky Woodling, OL Jones Krampitz, LB Davin Sodalak, QB Knox Bauerschlag.

2025 notes: Bellville's expectations remain sky-high. While the Brahmas have fewer explosive offensive and defensive playmakers, leadership is strong across the field. Junior QB Bauerschlag takes over under center, bringing a fresh spark to the offense. LB Hutchinson anchors the defense.

CALDWELL HORNETS (590)

Coach: Michael Sean Witherwax. Lettermen R/L: 20/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Coy Becka (6-0, 210, 4.4), WR Korbin Burns (6-1, 165, 4.5), OL Luke Freeman (6-1, 260, 5.3), DB Nate Reyes (5-8, 160, 4.8), LB John Fryrear (6-1, 185, 4.7), LB Zane Brown, WR/DB Dylan Carter.

2025 notes: ATH Becka powers the offense while also punting. WR Burns adds a reliable target, and three-year OL starter Freeman provides stability. Skill players are a strength, but the O-line is a concern after losing three starters. In a tough district, can Caldwell compete for a playoff spot?

GIDDINGS BUFFALOES (623)

Coach: Luke Hobbs. Lettermen R/L: 14/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Gunnar Fromme (6-5, 190, 4.4), OL/DL Peyton Dees (6-2, 320, 5.2), RB/DB Brysen McDaniel (5-8, 155, 4.4), OL/DL Dawson Wiley (6-1, 250, 4.6), QB Cam Adams (5-9, 165, 4.5), DL/TE Case Adams (6-0, 200, 4.8), LB Connor Ray (6-0, 195, 4.8).

2025 notes: First-year head coach Luke Hobbs

brings fresh energy to the program. The Buffaloes are determined to surpass three wins for the first time since 2020, leaning on a blue-collar mentality and a strong work ethic. Playmakers WR/DB Fromme and OL/DL Dees will be key leaders, but depth — particularly in the trenches — remains a challenge as Giddings pushes for a breakthrough season.

LA GRANGE LEOPARDS (612)

Coach: Kyle Cooper. Lettermen R/L: 21/19. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: DL/TE Oliver Gunn (6-2, 240, 4.9), WR/RB/LB Dillan Johnson (5-10, 185, 4.7), WR/DB Dwodney Thompson (6-0, 170, 4.5), QB/DB Eli Gillum (5-9, 165, 4.5), DB/LB/TE Chris Supak (6-1, 185, 4.7), DL/LB/TE Christian Biles (6-0, 210, 4.9), WR/DB Traiton Broussard (5-10, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Mason Kleiber, OL/DL Luke Anderson, DB Graham Youens, DL Scott Davis.

2025 notes: There's youth scattered all over, but La Grange is excited about 2025's potential. QB Gillum will be the new slinger, and he'd be smart to find explosive playmakers WR/RB/LB Johnson and WR/DB Thompson often. DL/TE Gunn will anchor a young but tenacious defense.

MADISONVILLE MUSTANGS (684)

Coach: Russell Urbantke. Lettermen R/L: 19/18. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Tristan Whaley (5-9, 165, 4.5), RB Jaden Simpson (5-9, 175, 4.5), WR/DB Kyus Ford (5-8, 160, 4.5), RB/LB Carmelo Gilbert (5-9, 165, 4.5), DB Kendrick Moffett (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Malachi Kovar (5-10, 165, 4.6), QB/LB Malik Kovar (5-10, 165, 4.6), DB Ver'renzo Childress, WR/DB Konnor Greer, OL Kendrick Davis, DL Andrew Maxey.

2025 notes: The Mustangs are loaded at the skill positions, led by WR/DB Whaley, who's poised for a big senior year. Size remains the biggest question mark, but if the trenches develop, Madisonville

Hudson Hill (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR Brock Deleon (5-5, 135, 4.7), OL Trigger Neimeyer, WR/CB Adrian Medina, OL/DL Hunter Delony, DB/WR Zachary Espinoza.

2025 notes: Lorena fields another young team in 2025, aiming to bounce back from a two-win season. The Leopards return depth at key skill positions, but face question marks in the trenches after losing FBS signees Jackson Blackwell and Seth Taverner. Developing size and consistency up front will be crucial.

ROBINSON ROCKETS (719)

Coach: Kevin Brown. Lettermen R/L: 23/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-3 4A DII bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Brice McCurdy (6-1, 190, 4.6), RB Evan Moreno (5-9, 185, 4.6), DB Cason Helpert (6-1, 190, 4.5), LB Ty Weaver (6-0, 188, 4.7), LB Tyler Hill (6-0, 220, 4.7), OL/DL Aaron Ruiz (6-0, 245, 5.3), WR Dylan Medlock (5-11, 155, 4.5), WR Brayden Terry (5-11, 170, 4.6), TE Jackson Paris, WR Ryder Chamblee, DL Derrick Medlock.

2025 notes: New head coach Kevin Brown is stepping into a unique situation, as the Rockets are fresh off a strong 2024 with several returners back. Rising junior QB McCurdy is expected to take another leap, and he forms a lethal two-headed offense with RB Moreno. Robinson could struggle with size up front, but with ample returning talent, can the Rockets build toward a deeper run in 2025?

WACO CONNALLY CADETS (622)

Coach: Terry Gerik. Lettermen R/L: 21/22. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 5-6 4A DII bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB/WR Jamarion Vincent (6-3, 185, 4.4), OL/DL Daniel Hancock (6-3, 230, 4.9), CB/WR KD Linville (5-10, 160, 4.5), CB/WR CJ Evans (5-9, 155, 4.5), RB Braeden Ford (5-9, 185, 4.5), DL Bryson Sparkman (5-9, 240, 4.9), OL/DL Brayden Driskell, OL/DL Roy Hitt, DB/RB Va'Shon Ritcherson.

2025 notes: Connally's offense will again run through Vincent, a Baylor commit who totaled

District 11-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kane Killough, Sealy

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Adarius Hutchinson, Bellville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Sealy
2. Bellville
3. Madisonville
4. La Grange
5. Caldwell
6. Giddings

could be in position to secure a third straight winning season and contend again in District 11-4A.

SEALY TIGERS (940)

Coach: Clint Finley. Lettermen R/L: 35/13. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 10-4 regional finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kane Killough (6-3, 220, 4.6), ATH Elijah Sanders (5-11, 160, 4.7), ATH Javien Grant (5-8, 190, 4.9), WR AJ Cepon (6-2, 175, 4.8), DL Kane Stone (5-8, 230, 5.2), LB Isiah Dukes-Self (5-10, 200, 4.9), ATH Beau Finley (6-1, 170, 4.7), WR Weston Cryan (5-8, 150, 4.7), ATH Brady Cranfill (5-10, 150, 4.7), OL Ryland Ponce, OL Erik Sanchez, OL Case Lyons, OL Trevor Hrachovy.

2025 notes: Reaching the regional final in 2024 has Sealy eyeing a deeper run. The Tigers return nearly every key piece, including QB Killough (2,326 yards, 27 TDs passing; 879 yards, 15 TDs rushing) and ATH Sanders (65-766 yards, 9 TDs receiving; 36 tackles, 6 INTs). With four starting O-linemen back and weapons all over the field, Sealy has the experience and firepower to contend. Can this veteran-laden group turn potential into something special in 2025?

nearly 2,000 yards last season. He has plenty of weapons, including WRs Linville and Evans and RB Ford. In the trenches, DL/OL Hancock anchors both sides, though line depth is a concern. With a strong senior class, the Cadets aim for a district title.

WACO LA VEGA PIRATES (877)

Coach: Don Hyde. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 12-4 4A DII state runner-up/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Jabarie Thornton (6-0, 185, 4.3), DB MarQwae Willis (6-2, 180, 4.4), LB Caden Roland (5-10, 200, 4.6), QB Kourtney Parr (6-3, 215, 4.8), OL Zaith Gonzales (6-4, 310, 5.2), OL JJ Johnson (6-0, 315, 5.1), RB Elbert Jones, LB Gee Thomas, DL Jayce Wiley, LB CJ Bradley.

2025 notes: La Vega looks poised for another deep playoff run in 2025, despite key losses. Replacing RB Bryson Roland and OL Eythan Thompson will be tough, but the offense remains strong. WR Thornton will lead the way, supported by QB Parr. On defense, DB Willis and LB Caden Roland anchor the team. La Vega remains a top contender.

District 12-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Jamarion Vincent, Waco Connally

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB MarQwae Willis, Waco La Vega

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Waco La Vega
2. Robinson
3. Waco Connally
4. China Spring
5. Gatesville
6. Lorena

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

GERONIMO NAVARRO PANTHERS (694.5)

Coach: Glenn Hill. Lettermen R/L: 23/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Payton Helford (5-10, 175, 4.6), RB/DB Dylan Trotti (5-7, 150, 4.5), TE/DL Braddock Gallini (6-3, 195, 4.7), LB/RB Tyler Riske (6-0, 190), TE/LB Luke Vogel (6-0, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Lane Black (6-0, 215, 5.0), OL/DL Chris Ledezma (6-4, 295, 5.3), OL/LB Zander Barnes (5-9, 175, 5.0), WR/DB Brody Zoeller (6-1, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Panthers will look to rebound from their first sub-.500 season since 2004 behind ATH Helford and LB Riske. Each earned district newcomer of the year honors last season.

GONZALES APACHES (760)

Coach: Lyndon Hamilton. Lettermen R/L: 28/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Travis Malveaux (5-10, 175, 4.6), DB Brealian Jones (6-0, 175, 4.7), LB Lanom Rhodes (6-0, 210, 4.8), DL Bryce Eleby (6-0, 245, 4.9), WR Damion Hunt (6-0, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Gary Lewis (5-10, 220, 5.0), RB Keath White (5-9, 165, 4.6), DL Luis Zuniga (6-2, 215, 4.7), RB Ayden Ramirez (5-10, 180, 4.6), RB/DB David Clack, OL Gustavo Rodriguez, DB/WR Daevien Pitts, LB Christian Jurek, DL Marcus Lampkin, LB/RB Collin Sanders, OL Isaiah Balderas, OL Jayden Balderas.

2025 notes: Coach Hamilton takes over a program hungry to get back to the playoffs. The defense should be salty thanks to DB Jones, LBs Rhodes and Jurek, and DLs Eleby and Lampkin.

JARRELL COUGARS (951)

Coach: Alan Haire. Lettermen R/L: 28/14. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 6-4/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Jaysen Hobbs (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB JT Travis (6-0, 175, 4.7), OL Bryan Tibbetts (6-0, 190, 4.9), LB Luke Warfield (6-1, 225, 4.9), OL Caleb Webster (5-10, 185, 4.9), OL Zander Hess (5-10, 230, 5.3), QB Jamari Livsey (6-1, 175, 4.6), RB Brayden Morelock (5-7, 145, 4.8), TE/DL Derron Johnson, DB JJ Fitch, ATH Elzie Mendy, LB CJ Stockton, DB Michael Rodriguez, DL Josegiberto Serrano.

BANDERA BULLDOGS (702)

Coach: Joel Fontenot-Amedee. Lettermen R/L: 23/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jeffry Thomas (5-10, 155, 4.6), RB Juan Cabrera (5-9, 180, 4.7), RB/WR Breydan Gherman (5-11, 150, 4.5), OL Logan Harman (6-4, 285), DB Dane Barnett (6-0, 165, 4.8), LB Jonah Klein (5-11, 165, 4.8), QB/WR/DB Dalton Parks (5-11, 150, 4.6), WR James Goldberg (5-10, 165, 4.8), RB/WR/LB Carter Hanks (5-8, 160, 4.6), LB/WR West Cloudt, RB/DL Benton Cloudt, DB Beto Rodrigues, OL Isaiah Colonye, LB Caleb Tippit, LB/RB Riley Moran, WR/DB Ruffin Scartocci, QB/WR Jake Cesta.

2025 notes: Bandera's experience on offense is an asset because of the return of two proven RBs Gherman (1,295 yards, 13 TDs rushing) and Cabrera, who missed 2024 with a knee injury after rushing for 1,118 yards and 10 touchdowns two seasons ago. WR Thomas (915 yards, 13 TDs) is a third-year starter with big-play capability. The defense will be led by DB Barnett (94 tackles, 2 INTs), also a third-year starter.

CARRIZO SPRINGS WILDCATS (573)

Coach: Giovanni Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 10/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jacee Carrizales (5-7, 145, 4.6), LB/RB James Botello (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Felix Ramos (5-10, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Brayden Avalos (5-11, 195, 5.1), TE Deaken Ibarra (6-0, 185, 4.8), LB Gavyn Gonzalez (5-11, 185, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Wildcats will ride the experience in RBs Carrizales (1,349 yards, 21 TDs rushing) and Botello (685 yards rushing) as part of their Slot-T offense to success this season. Botello (95 tackles) will play a big factor on defense, too. LB Ramos (65 tackles) looks to play a bigger role. Depth is a concern.

2025 notes: At his three previous coaching stops, the second year in Haire's system resulted in significant offensive improvement. RB Hobbs is a hard-charging back, and LB Travis will anchor what could be a resurgent defense.

LAGO VISTA VIKINGS (672.5)

Coach: Craten Phillips. Lettermen R/L: 24/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Brock Morton (5-10, 160, 4.5), DB Cedrick Griffin (6-4, 180, 4.6), RB Noah Arambula (5-8, 175, 4.7), DL Graydon Burke (6-2, 235, 5.0), LB Aaden Vasquez (6-0, 185, 4.6), WR Matthew Purkey (6-1, 165, 4.5), OL Jon Celcer (6-4, 290, 5.3), QB Tripp Henderson.

2025 notes: A solid nucleus returns for a Vikings squad that's enjoying playoff success. Behind the experienced quartet of RB Arambula, WR Morton, WR Purkey and QB Henderson, the offense should be explosive.

SALADO EAGLES (721)

Coach: Ricky Beatty. Lettermen R/L: 25/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/9. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Devonte Foster (5-11, 175, 4.5), LB Damonte Foster (5-11, 175, 4.6), TE Landen Noske (6-1, 220, 4.6), RB Luke Bingham (5-10, 175, 4.5), WR Gabe Merriman (6-0, 165, 4.5), DB/WR Brayden Dildine (5-9, 165, 4.4), LB Michael Edmondson (5-10, 185, 4.6), DL/LB Owen Gunter (6-1, 220, 4.6), OL/DL Christian Norcross, WR King Tobe, DB Mason Olson, DB Dylan Jimenez, DL Luke Bauser, QB/DB Ryder Balmos, DL Ethan Robledo, LB Cade Fenoglio.

2025 notes: In his first season, Beatty rebuilt a culture that quickly got the Eagles back to their winning ways. Defensive wizards Devonte and Damonte Foster, Edmondson and Fenoglio are primed to lead the Eagles to another successful season.

SMITHVILLE TIGERS (555)

Coach: Layne Neumann. Lettermen R/L: 17/4. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Justin Gurley (6-0, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Baylor Watson (6-4, 250), OL/DL Jose Soto (5-

DEVINE WARHORSES (580)

Coach: Paul Gomez. Lettermen R/L: 16/17. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Riley Gutierrez (5-10, 190, 4.8), OL/LB Trystan Lafond (6-1, 220, 4.8), QB/LB Karter Brown (5-10, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Jackson Hagdorn (6-2, 265, 5.3), WR/DB Mario Vicente (5-9, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Derek Trailer (6-0, 220, 5.1), WR/DB Rowdy Esparza (5-10, 165, 4.5), RB/LB Sergio De Leon (5-11, 210, 4.8), RB/DB Enoch Hall, RB/LB Ty Sadler, OL/DL Marcus Gomez, OL/DL Fabian Reyes, TE/DL Tyler Hinnant, RB/DB Jeremy Steinbrunner, OL/DL Nate Martinez, OL/DL Christian San Miguel, OL/DL T.J. Buvinghausen.

2025 notes: The Warhorses will have to bolster the skill spots on offense to contend for a district championship, Gomez said. OL/LB Lafond (60 tackles, 11 TFL, 4 sacks) was the team's defensive MVP and a first-team all-district selection on both sides last season. QB/LB Brown (35 tackles, 3 sacks) made a big impact before getting injured. He is expected to play quarterback. OL Hagdorn plays center but can play anywhere on the line.

MEMORIAL MINUTEMEN (892.5)

Coach: Paul Ortega. Lettermen R/L: 15/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 0-10/0-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL John Elizondo (6-1, 260, 5.1), WR Josiah Rodriguez (5-9, 140, 4.9), RB Jonathan Victela (5-8, 165, 4.8), OL Felipe Pena Chu (6-2, 360), OL Eugenio Resendiz (5-6, 130, 4.7), LB Damian Garza (5-11, 150, 5.1), K Javier Rocha (5-7, 135, 5.0), RB/LB Damian Lopez (5-6, 135, 4.9), DL Eliel Castillo, DB Mario Rubio, WR Anthony Grant, WR/DB Corey Cates, WR/DB Ricardo Bustos, TE/DL Obed De La Cruz, TE/LB Evan Harvey, LB/RB Jonathan Alderete.

2025 notes: Ortega is optimistic the Minutemen can put together a competitive team. DL John Elizondo (50 tackles) leads the defense and will anchor both sides of the line. RB Victela (487 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is the team's leading returning

District 13-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Payton Helford, Geronimo Navarro

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Maverick Jacobs, Wimberley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Wimberley | 5. Jarrell |
| 2. Lago Vista | 6. Gonzales |
| 3. Geronimo Navarro | 7. Smithville |
| 4. Salado | |

10, 225), DL Elijah Fletcher (6-0, 205, 4.8), QB/LB Trip Davis (6-0, 175), WR/DB Bodie Goertz (6-3, 195), ATH Rorry Johnson (6-0, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Dalton Ellis (5-11, 175, 4.9), ATH Dameon Fletcher (6-0, 195, 4.6), K Zane Pekins, DL Cooper Stockdale, WR/DB Eric Thompson.

2025 notes: Coach Neumann's first season proved to be a learning experience, one he hopes pays off quickly – and mightily. The Tigers have pieces in place to take a big leap forward.

WIMBERLEY TEXANS (855)

Coach: Wesley Lambert. Lettermen R/L: 18/27. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 12-3 state semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Maverick Jacobs (5-8, 185, 4.7), OL/DL Cody Phillips (6-2, 280, 5.3), OL/DL Will Kellerman (5-10, 260, 5.3), RB/LB Josh Belanger (5-10, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Rhett Rosborough (6-2, 240, 5.3), WR/DB Jake Dewell (5-10, 170, 4.7), LB/WR Reid Wood (6-1, 195, 4.9), OL/DL Chase Lawson (5-10, 240, 5.1), RB/LB Wesley Milam (5-10, 175, 4.5), QB/DB Jackson Parker, OL/DL Zac Romo, WR/DB Keith Cook, DL/OL Josh Heugly, LB/WR Hunter Kyle.

2025 notes: The Texans begin life under new coach Lambert, promoted from OC, and must replace star QB Cody Stoeber. Who are their next shining stars? RB/LB Jacobs and RB Belanger will get the bulk of the carries behind a line anchored by OL/DLs Kellerman, Rosborough and Phillips.

rusher. The Minutemen are expected to carry 35 players on varsity, so depth is a concern.

PEARSALL MAVERICKS (594)

Coach: Ruben De Leon. Lettermen R/L: 29/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Abel Elizondo (5-10, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Jared Leal (6-0, 240, 5.4), LB/RB Jaiden Ortiz (5-10, 175, 4.7), QB Jarren Cabosos (5-11, 175, 4.9), DL/OL Jayden Villarreal (6-1, 255, 5.4), WR/DB Samuel Martinez (5-9, 155, 4.6), RB/DB J.M. Gutierrez (5-9, 155, 4.8), WR/DB Logan Rodriguez (5-10, 145), OL/DL Alan Celis, LB/TE Adrian Rosales, RB/LB Sebastian Mireles.

2025 notes: Coach De Leon believes experience will make the team stronger as they seek their first winning season since 2022. DL Leal and LB Rosales return as the team's leading tacklers. QB Cabosos (717 yards, 5 TDs passing) and RB Elizondo (162 yards, 2 TDs) look to build on promising 2024 seasons.

District 14-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Jeffry Thomas, Bandera

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Trystan Lafond, Devine

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Devine | 5. San Antonio Memorial |
| 2. Bandera | |
| 3. Carrizo Springs | |
| 4. Pearsall | |

DC TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 4A HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS 4A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CUERO GOBBLERS (639)

Coach: Jerod Fikac. Lettermen R/L: 21/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jaxxon Marie (6-1, 180, 4.7), WR Walker Dietze (6-2, 190, 4.6), OL Jayden Winfield (6-3, 270, 5.2), DB Aiden Strecker (5-10, 160, 4.9), QB Jayce Guajardo (5-11, 160, 4.9), TE/DL Aiden Stafford (6-3, 240, 4.9). Top juniors: DB Melo Perez (5-9, 160, 4.7), WR D'Zayvin Bonner (5-4, 145, 4.6). Top sophomore: DL K'den Johnson (6-1, 230, 5.0).

Other prospects: RB Jordan Jones, WR Christopher Mathis, WR/DB Jossiah Taylor.

2025 notes: The Gobblers have the benefit of two QBs with starting experience in QB Marie (1,283 yards, 22 TDs passing; 725 yards, 9 TDs rushing) and QB Guajardo. Marie was stellar in an injury shortened season and Guajardo filled in well. WR Dietze is a playmaker (1,231 yards, 19 TDs receiving). DB Strecker (98 tackles) leads a defense that needs to fill some spots, but Cuero expects to be in the thick of the race for the region.

INGLESIDE MUSTANGS (595)

Coach: Travis Chrisman. Lettermen R/L: 15/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Julius Sierra (5-9, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Jayden Techur (5-9, 170, 4.7), TE/LB Brody Biggs (5-10, 200, 4.9), DL Manuel Hinojosa (5-10, 250, 5.0), OL/DL Kayson Kent (6-2, 235). Top juniors: WR/DB Lance Van Meter (5-10, 155, 4.7), RB Aaron Flores (5-9, 185, 4.8). Top sophomore: QB Landon Younk (5-10, 155).

Other prospects: OL/DL Patrick Gray, RB/LB Gael Pardo, OL/DL Ayden Salazar, DB Adam Govea.

2025 notes: The Mustangs will have some big shoes to fill as much of their offensive production from 2024 graduated, but Chrisman expects a more dynamic unit. WR/DB Sierra (206 yards, 2 TDs receiving) and RB Flores (302 yards, 1 TD rushing) come back with some experience on offense, but WR/DB Techur could come in and make an impact after a strong season on a highly

successful freshman team. DL Hinojosa (38 tackles) spearheads the defense as a three-year starter.

ROBSTOWN COTTON PICKERS (735)

Coach: Travis Crowley. Lettermen R/L: 22/15. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 2-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Tim Sanchez (5-9, 165, 4.6), DE Mike Williams (6-2, 205, 4.7), QB Trevin Crowley (5-10, 185, 4.5), RB Isaiah Gutierrez (6-0, 205, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Joel Mungia (6-0, 200, 4.8), OL Paul Gilmore (6-2, 220, 5.1). Top sophomore: RB/LB Ethan Vasquez (5-7, 150, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/LB AJ Herrera, QB/DB Dylan West, RB/LB Dominic Figueroa, OL Daniel Colmenero.

2025 notes: The team has a chance to be explosive in the passing game again this season as WR/DB Sanchez (1,123 yards, 9 TDs receiving) returns after a breakout season. QB Crowley (1,665 yards, 14 TDs passing; 16 rush TDs) returns to lead the offense, while three-year starter RB Gutierrez is back. Robstown will need to shore up some spots on both lines.

ROCKPORT-FULTON PIRATES (898)

Coach: Eric Soza. Lettermen R/L: 23/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Caleb Wilshire (6-3, 210, 4.8), QB/DB Reid Snyder (6-1, 180, 4.9), RB/DB Traey Alvarado (5-7, 165, 4.6), LB Wyatt Kahofoer (6-0, 195, 5.0), RB/DB Jaxon Keown (5-8, 150, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Landry Kuykendall (6-3, 355, 5.9), OL/DL Tanner Starling (5-11, 240, 5.4). Top sophomore: RB/LB George Solis (5-10, 175, 5.0).

2025 notes: In his second season, Soza feels the familiarity in the system and between the coaching staff and players will pay off with more success after making the playoffs in Year 1. QB/DB Snyder will take over behind center and RB/DB Alvarado returns as the most experienced back in the Slot-T (793 yards, 13 TDs rushing). DL Wilshire (63 tackles, 2 sacks) and LB Kahofoer (104 tackles, 1 INT)

2025 notes: The Lions split last year's district title and are focused on winning it outright in 2025. QB Martinez (506 yards, 4 TDs passing) steps into a starting role with WR Benjamin and WR Sanchez as his go-to guys. RB Guzman (477 yards, 2 TDs rushing) will help alleviate pressure with the ground game. La Feria's defense will be strongest on the second level with LB Alvarado (93 tackles) and LB Cisneros (58 tackles) leading the charge.

PORT ISABEL TARPONS (596)

Coach: Tony Villarreal. Lettermen R/L: 11/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-3 area finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Luis Ramos (5-8, 155, 4.4), QB Bryan Martinez (5-10, 160, 4.7), LB Edward Garza (6-0, 210, 4.9), RB/LB Michael Finona (5-9, 198, 4.8), RB/LB Ryan Cienfuegos (5-10, 250, 4.8), OL Jamil Vasquez (6-0, 260, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Jose Alonso (6-1, 315, 5.3), OL Jay Valdez (6-3, 240, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL/LB Jahi Vasquez (6-0, 240, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Tarpons are gunning for a fourth-straight district title, but it'll take some retooling on the OL and DL to help get it done. Port Isabel does return serious playmakers at the skill spots, led by RB Ramos (1,500 yards, 16 TDs rushing) and QB Martinez (817 yards, 8 TDs passing). LB Garza (73 tackles) is the Tarpons top returning tackler, while RB/LB Finona and RB/LB Cienfuegos will see time as two-way guys.

RIO GRANDE CITY GRULLA GATORS (910)

Coach: Alejandro Bazan. Lettermen R/L: 17/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 1-9 bi-district finalist/0-3 district.

District 15-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Walker Dietze, Cuero

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jonathan Rivas, Sinton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Cuero
2. Sinton
3. Rockport-Fulton
4. Ingleside
5. Robstown

headline an experienced defense that will lead the team.

SINTON PIRATES (600.5)

Coach: Michael Troutman. Lettermen R/L: 15/26. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 13-1 regional finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Mykha Green (5-11, 185, 4.6), OL Clay Mitchell (6-5, 280, 5.2), WR Sean Hughes (6-1, 155, 4.5), LB Jonathan Rivas (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Zack Busack (5-11, 255, 5.3), OL/DL Ezekial Rodriguez (5-11, 235, 4.9). Top juniors: LB Julian Suarez (5-9, 185, 4.7), OL Jason Valdez (6-2, 280, 5.4). Top sophomore: QB Quincy Bess (6-0, 185, 5.0).

Other prospects: OL Jaycee Castro, RB/DB Marcos Zapata, WR/DB Roland Galvan, OL/DL Joe Gonzales, OL Shane Trevino, DL Omar Vargas.

2025 notes: There will be many new faces for the Pirates, but returning the region's top lineman in OL Mitchell will help maintain high expectations. RB Green (865 yards, 10 TDs rushing) will step into a more prominent role in the backfield helping break in a new starting QB in Bess. The biggest changes come on defense where Sinton replaces most of its starters. LB Rivas (116 tackles, 5 sacks) and OL/DL Rodriguez will need to lead that unit.

Players to watch: QB Jaythan Salinas (6-0, 213, 5.0), RB/LB Luis Villarreal (5-8, 175, 4.9), OL Stephen Merkt (6-1, 243, 5.3), LB Max Barrera (5-9, 197, 5.0), OL Bryan Rodriguez (5-7, 214, 5.1), OL Aiden Rivera (6-0, 225, 5.5). Top juniors: DL Bryan Carrillo (5-8, 238, 5.7). Top sophomore: ATH Isaiah Salinas (5-7, 155, 4.9).

Other prospects: DB Nathan Elicerio (5-8, 145, 5.0), WR Bryan Hinojosa (5-7, 155, 5.0), WR Tony Martinez (5-6, 160, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Grulla Gators are ready to bounce back after a strong offseason. RB/LB Villarreal will find room running behind a powerful offensive line led by three-year starters OL Merkt, OL Rodriguez and OL Rivera. They'll also protect QB Salinas when he drops back to pass in the spread offense. LB Barrera is a versatile defender who moves around Grulla's 3-3-5 stack, and DL Carrillo is expected to take another step forward after a strong sophomore campaign.

District 16-4A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Damarius Montgomery, Kingsville King

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Eddie Alvarado, La Feria

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. La Feria
2. Kingsville King
3. Port Isabel
4. Rio Grande City Grulla

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

KINGSVILLE KING BRAHMAS (934)

Coach: Ruben Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 30/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Christian Flowers (5-11, 165, 4.5), RB Damarius Montgomery (5-10, 200, 4.7), WR/DB John Cason (5-9, 165, 4.6), DL Seth Coleman (5-11, 250, 5.2), LB Joe Palacios (5-10, 180, 4.7), WR Ethan Lerma (5-9, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Juan Caldera (5-9, 165, 4.7), LB Brayden Munoz (5-10, 170, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/DB Julio Pineda-Garcia (6-0, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: DL Christopher Rhone, WR/LB Marlon McGee, WR/DB Dante White, WR/DB Peyton Hooks, WR/DB Rocky Limon, DL Ruben Rodriguez.

2025 notes: Garcia has turned things around in two years after splitting last year's 16-4A DII title. King will lean on the legs of RB Montgomery (1,407 yards, 19 TDs rushing) and arm of new QB Cason, while WR Flowers (31-485 yards, 3 TDs receiving) enters as the top weapon outside. WR/DB Cason (85 tackles) and LB Palacios (22 TFL, 10.5 sacks) also give the Brahmans playmakers on the defensive side of the ball.

LA FERIA LIONS (937)

Coach: Craig Foster. Lettermen R/L: 18/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 5-5 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Antonio Benjamin (6-1, 190), LB Eddie Alvarado (5-10, 163), WR Devin Sanchez (5-3, 113), LB Matt Cisneros (5-8, 165), OL Rene Garcia Jr. (5-8, 224), DB Bryan Velasquez (5-6, 165). Top juniors: OL Malakhi Alaniz (5-10, 242). Top sophomore: DL Caleb Vaughan (5-9, 256).

Other prospects: QB Jaden Martinez, DL Anthony Medrano, RB Titus Guzman, LB Alexis Cruz, WR Dominic Trevino, WR/DB Joe Garza.

Where Legends Begin

Class 4A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

4A DIVISION I

Celina

When Bill Elliott first took a coaching job at Celina in 1992, the high school had 150 students and the town had one flashing light. Now, Celina's grown into DFW's next booming suburb with more than 43,000 residents.

But the more the town changes, the more Elliott has fought to keep Celina football the same.

"Because of the great tradition and culture Celina's had for so long, I'm trying to maintain that — who we are and what we stand for," Elliott said.

The 55–21 win over Kilgore in the Class 4A Division I state championship marked Elliott's first title as head coach, and Celina's ninth overall. Yes, the town is booming. But this is still a one-high school, title-town program.

Celina ended a championship drought dating back to 2007 because it evolved on the field — from a run-heavy offense to a balanced attack. Running backs Logan Gutierrez and Harrison Williams still produced, but Offensive

MVP quarterback Bowe Bentley delivered one of the greatest state title performances in program history.

Bentley had as many incompletions (five) as touchdown passes — and one of those incompletions was a dropped score. He finished 9-of-14 for 265 yards and five touchdowns. His five touchdown passes tied for second-most in a Class 4A state championship.

Bentley's heroics came against a Kilgore defense that had allowed just 9.2 points per game in the playoffs. Kilgore head coach Clint Fuller said the Bulldogs rotated through four fronts and changed personnel three times.

Bentley's first two touchdown passes went to senior wideout Ethan Rucker, who finished with three catches for 95 yards and two scores. But his most crucial contributions came on defense. After Kilgore scored on its first two drives, Celina inserted Rucker at defensive back — and the Bobcats allowed just one more touchdown the rest of the game.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — We thought the Bobcats would be good — they started No. 4 in *Texas Football's* preseason 4A DI rankings —but not *this* good.

TURNING POINT — When the Bobcats survived a wild shootout with Canyon West Plains in the state semifinals, they felt like a team of destiny.

TEAM MVP — Bowe Bentley, who emerged as perhaps the finest quarterback in Texas, at any level.

BY THE NUMBERS — **141-65:** The combined record for Celina's opponents in 2024, by far the toughest schedule in Class 4A.

Celina's Road to the Title (16-0)

Celina 49, Bellville 30
Celina 49, Waco La Vega 27
Celina 38, Gunter 7
Celina 59, Franklin 21

Celina 42, Frisco Panther Creek 7
Celina 49, Aubrey 10
Celina 31, Sulphur Springs 6
Celina 45, Paris 7

Celina 70, Nevada Community 6
Celina 52, Lake Dallas 14
Celina 75, Wilmer-Hutchins 0
Celina 49, Kennedale 7

Celina 63, Aubrey 49
Celina 55, Alvarado 21
Celina 43, Canyon West Plains 36
Celina 55, Kilgore 21

4A DIVISION II

Carthage

In the aftermath of Waco La Vega's 28–14 loss to Carthage in the Class 4A Division II state championship, head coach Don Hyde kept coming back to one conclusion.

"Sometimes, you run into a wall that's just a little bit bigger than your wall," Hyde said.

The Bulldogs' defense dominated, logging 15 tackles for loss and seven sacks — the second-most in 4A DII title game history. Outside of a late 79-yard scoring drive, La Vega was held to just 129 total yards.

Carthage edge rushers DaQuives Beck and Carson Crawford spent the afternoon in the backfield. Beck, the Defensive MVP, posted 10 tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss, and a sack; Crawford added four TFLs and two sacks. Their impact was amplified by senior nose guard James Morrow, who clogged the middle and limited 2,000-yard rusher Bryson Roland to a hard-earned 94 yards.

The Bulldogs' defense kept the game

in control as the offense sputtered through the early stages. That changed with 3:40 left in the first half, when junior running back KJ Edwards broke through five defenders for an 86-yard touchdown run — surpassing Carthage's previous five-drive total of 68 yards in a single play. Edwards, named Offensive MVP, finished with 18 carries for 188 yards and two scores.

Quarterback Jett Surratt added touchdown passes on Carthage's final two drives, sealing the win and delivering head coach Scott Surratt his 10th state title — his first with his son at quarterback.

The win marked a perfect 10–0 record in state championship games for Surratt, solidifying Carthage's dynasty and ending La Vega's run short of its ultimate goal.

"You don't get lucky ten times," Scott said. "I'm not tooting my own horn. I'm talking about the administration. You've got to have a great administration."



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — After 2023's stunning playoff loss, the revenge tour was on: Carthage started No. 1 in *Texas Football's* preseason 4A DII rankings.

TURNING POINT — The Bulldogs' gutty 28-7 win over Region II nemesis Pleasant Grove set the stage for a 10th state title.

TEAM MVP — KJ Edwards, who ran for 1,789 yards and 23 touchdowns to pace the Bulldogs' balanced attack.

BY THE NUMBERS — **80:** Scott Surratt has won 80 playoff games in his 18 seasons as Carthage's head coach, compared to 31 total losses.

Carthage's Road to the Title (15-1)

Kilgore 20, Carthage 15
Carthage 58, Liberty-Eylau 20
Carthage 45, Tyler Chapel Hill 14
Carthage 58, Jasper 14

Carthage 56, San Benito 0
Carthage 59, Center 21
Carthage 49, Athens 7
Carthage 55, Bullard 0

Carthage 49, Rusk 7
Carthage 57, Brownsboro 8
Carthage 49, Longview Spring Hill 0
Carthage 56, Krum 13

Carthage 28, Pleasant Grove 7
Carthage 53, Van 14
Carthage 45, Brock 17
Carthage 28, Waco La Vega 14

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 4A

Class 4A SEASON IN REVIEW

2024 TSWA CLASS 4A ALL-STATE TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Bowe Bentley, Celina

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Luke Biagini, Celina

COACH OF THE YEAR: Bill Elliott, Celina

First-Team Offense

OG Johnathan Bateman, Henderson
OG Lucas Cano, Gilmer
OT Kash Courtney, Carthage
OT Eythan Thompson, Waco La Vega
OC Brandon Allison, Carthage
OC Ty Hughes, Celina
WR Tristian Gentry, Stephenville
WR Ethan Rucker, Celina
WR Jacoby James, Sinton
TE Brodey Bowman, Glen Rose
QB Bowe Bentley, Celina
RB K.J. Edwards, Carthage
RB Bryson Roland, Waco La Vega
RB Rayshon Smith, Gatesville
FB Fischer Franck, Calhoun
FB Zamar Vargas, San Elizario
AP Colton Rodriguez, Celina
K Jorge Mendoza, Glen Rose

First-Team Defense

DL Lance Jackson, Pleasant Grove
DL Warren Richardson, Waco La Vega
DL James Morrow, Carthage
DL Cam Christian, Kilgore
LB Luke Biagini, Celina
LB Trevor Brooks, Chapel Hill
LB Asa Parenteau, Brock
LB Ty Thames, Wimberley
LB DeQuives Beck, Carthage
DB Jakalen Sheffield, Kilgore
DB Jayden Sanders, Kilgore
DB Lance Sansom, Alvarado
DB Juan-Milleon Aguilar, Dallas Kimball
P Colt James, Palestine
UT Jamarion Vincent, Waco Connally
KR Harison Brockway, Graham

Second-Team Offense

OG Brandon Casas, Athens
OG Clay Struska, Needville
OT Keegan Collins, West Plains
OT Clay Mitchell, Sinton
OC Keldrick Davis, Chapel Hill
WR Jabarie Thornton, La Vega
WR Xylan Williams, Bay City
TE Hunter Byerley, Alvarado
QB Jett Surratt, Carthage
RB Sean Garza, La Vernia
RB Rickey Stewart, Chapel Hill
RB Demarcus Belton, Alvarado
RB Damian Figueroa, Tulos-Midway
FB Jayson Hobbs, Jarrell
AP Josiah Groeneweg, Glen Rose
K Seth Baggett, Lindale

Second-Team Defense

DL Jackson Blackwell, Lorena
DL Isaiah Collins, Chapel Hill
DL Davin Magga, Brock
DL Keltyn Raymond, Glen Rose
LB Tryston Hernandez, West Plains
LB Jude Hernandez, CC Calallen
LB Mason Milton, Graham
LB Logan Woolard, Alvarado
DB Izaiah Cabrelas, Calhoun
DB Amos Phillips, Gatesville
DB Marquae Willis, Waco La Vega
DB Kane White-Tinsley, West Plains
P Trevor Brooks, Chapel Hill
UT Trevor Garcia, Rockport-Fulton
KR Trevor Allen, Spring Hill



Photo Credit: Tian Le

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 4A PLAYOFF RESULTS

DIVISION I

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Dumas 56, El Paso Austin 21; Lampasas 53, Pecos 14; Canyon West Plains 42, Clint 8; Brownwood 56, Big Spring 13; Andrews 35, Burnet 21; Canyon Randall 71, El Paso Ysleta 27; Stephenville 70, San Angelo Lake View 0; Hereford 28, El Paso Riverside 20; Region II: Springtown 52, River Oaks Castleberry 16; Sulphur Springs 55, Dallas Carter 14; Alvarado 76, Fort Worth Eastern Hills 12; Frisco Panther Creek 49, Dallas Pinkston 14; Celina 75, Wilmer-Hutchins 0; Kennedale 25, Fort Worth Southwest 8; Aubrey 35, Dallas Kimball 33; Decatur 44, Carrollton Ranchview 7; Region III: Kilgore 84, Vidor 6; Needville 49, Houston Furr 7; Lindale 49, Little Cypress-Mauriceville 21; Navasota 49, Houston Yates 18; Houston Worthing 35, Fort Bend Crawford 28; Tyler Chapel Hill 44, Huffman-Hargrave 35; Stafford 41, Houston Wheatley 0; Longview Pine Tree 35, Bridge City 28; Region IV: Austin LBJ 42, Fredericksburg 14; La Vernia 49, Tulos-Midway 17; San Antonio Davenport 91, Manor New Tech 18; Port Lavaca Calhoun 56, Zapata 14; Bay City 87, Hidalgo 0; Canyon Lake 63, Austin Travis 19; Corpus Christi Calallen 35, El Campo 14; Somerset 35, Taylor 28. **AREA** – Region I: Lampasas 55, Dumas 21; Canyon West Plains 49, Brownwood 14; Canyon Randall 42, Andrews 36; Stephenville 35, Hereford 7; Region II: Sulphur Springs 56, Springtown 39; Alvarado 44, Frisco Panther Creek 41; Celina 49, Kennedale 7; Aubrey 41, Decatur 38; Region III: Kilgore 60, Needville 18; Navasota 56, Lindale 45; Tyler Chapel Hill 49, Houston Worthing 24; Stafford 14, Longview Pine Tree 13; Region IV: La Vernia 13, Austin LBJ 10; Port Lavaca Calhoun 42, San Antonio Davenport 28; Bay City 58, Canyon Lake 21; Corpus Christi Calallen 49, Somerset 28. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Canyon West Plains 63, Lampasas 35; Stephenville 46, Canyon Randall 7; Region II: Alvarado 42, Sulphur Springs 39; Celina 63, Aubrey 49; Region III: Kilgore 62, Navasota 7; Tyler Chapel Hill 28, Stafford 3; Region IV: La Vernia 24, Port Lavaca Calhoun 21; Bay City 28, Corpus Christi Calallen 21. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Canyon West Plains 42, Stephenville 35; Region II: Celina 55, Alvarado 21; Region III: Kilgore 30, Tyler Chapel Hill 6; Region IV: La Vernia 42, Bay City 24. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Celina 43, Canyon West Plains 36; Kilgore 38, La Vernia 13. **STATE FINAL** – Celina 55, Kilgore 21.

DIVISION II

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Midland Greenwood 50, Borger 17; Benbrook 35, Mineral Wells 24; Lubbock Estacado 45, Fort Stockton 20; Brock 46, Godley 10; Graham 60, Fort Worth Dunbar 0; Monahans 28, Perryton 27; Glen Rose 48, Eagle Mountain 6; Seminole 70, Levelland 32; Region II: Van Alstyne 54, Ferris 15; Van 38, Athens 30; Sunnyvale 52, Caddo Mills 27; Gilmer 20, Center 14; Texarkana Pleasant Grove 56, Bullard 14; Farmersville 27, Canton 0; Carthage 49, Longview Spring Hill 0; Krum 24, Quinlan Ford 14; Region III: Hamshire-Fannett 49, La Marque 13; Sealy 63, Robinson 34, West Columbia 56, Jasper 35; Gatesville 45, Madisonville 28; Bellville 35, Waco Connally 0; Silsbee 45, Brookshire Royal 6; Waco La Vega 56, La Grange 2; West Orange-Stark 41, Sweeny 14; Region IV: Wimberley 69, Pearsall 0; Rockport-Fulton 55, Kingsville 28; Geronimo Navarro 56, Carrizo Springs 14; Cuero 83, La Feria 20; Sinton 84, Rio Grande City Grulla 0; Salado 46, Devine 21; Port Isabel 28, Ingleside 21; Lago Vista 42, Bandera 10. **AREA** – Region I: Benbrook 41, Midland Greenwood 34; Brock 62, Lubbock Estacado 13; Graham 63, Monahans 6; Glen Rose 52, Seminole 50; Region II: Van 45, Van Alstyne 42; Sunnyvale 27, Gilmer 17; Texarkana Pleasant Grove 56, Farmersville 7; Carthage 56, Krum 13; Region III: Sealy 21, Hamshire-Fannett 17; Gatesville 42, West Columbia 27; Silsbee 41, Bellville 17; Waco La Vega 42, West Orange-Stark 20; Region IV: Wimberley 62, Rockport-Fulton 21; Cuero 56, Geronimo Navarro 21; Sinton 51, Salado 21; Lago Vista 31, Port Isabel 0. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Brock 56, Benbrook 13; Graham 38, Glen Rose 27; Region II: Van 42, Sunnyvale 38; Carthage 28, Texarkana Pleasant Grove 7; Region III: Sealy 56, Gatesville 21, Waco La Vega 49, Silsbee 21; Region IV: Wimberley 69, Cuero 28; Sinton 35, Lago Vista 0. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Brock 12, Graham 10; Region II: Carthage 53, Van 14; Region III: Waco La Vega 48, Sealy 30; Region IV: Wimberley 36, Sinton 33. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Carthage 45, Brock 17; Waco La Vega 62, Wimberley 35. **STATE FINAL** – Carthage 28, Waco La Vega 14.

**CLASS 3A**

In front of a packed homecoming crowd at Wildcat Stadium, the Amarillo River Road Wildcats huddle near midfield. With new head coach Aaron Wampler at the helm, a new era is underway — and excitement is building in Potter County.

Photo by James Michael Abel

Class 3A Cover Boy **DEQUANE PREVO**

LIBERTY-EYLAU'S LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE

BY GREG TEPPER

Brad Willard knows talent.

The former Baylor player and assistant coach spent two wildly successful years as Mount Vernon's head coach before a spell as Tyler Legacy's offensive coordinator. He's been around big-time playmakers over the course of his career.

So Willard says something like...

"From a pure talent standpoint, it's hard to not say he is the best I've been around. The kid doesn't really get touched much."

...that's saying something.

But that's exactly how the Liberty-Eylau coach feels about his superstar Dequane Prevo, one of the most dynamic playmakers in the state. Standing just 5-10, the senior may not look like the prototypical towering No. 1 receiver. But flip on the tape; watch his ball skills, his run-after-catch ability, his suddenness. It's that ability that sets him apart as one of Class 3A's true superstars.

Wherever he is lined up, Prevo makes his impact felt. To wit: the Leopards' Week 2 game against Henderson, when Prevo went off for 10 catches for a school record 258 yards and three total touchdowns, including a kick return score.

The mentality, according to Prevo, was simple — and largely tied up in his sophomore season lost to a knee injury.

"Go score," Prevo said. "Like, I had to make some plays. I didn't have a great season last year, and I'd been working all summer, so I was trying to do better than what I did last year."

It was Willard's second game at the helm of Liberty-Eylau, and his first real introduction to his star athlete.

"That was when people were like, 'Okay, this dude's different,'" Willard said.

Prevo finished his junior season with a stat line that would make video game players blush: 72 catches, for 1,541 yards — the most among all 3A players, and sixth among all UIL 11-man players — for 21 touchdowns. That production led to a flurry of recruiting attention for the player rated as a four-star prospect by Dave Campbell's *Texas Football* — 28 offers from all over the country, culminating with November verbal commitment to Arkansas.

But before he's off to call the Hogs, Prevo has unfinished business in Texarkana. Liberty-Eylau enjoyed a breakout 2024 season, going 11-3 and reaching the regional finals — including a virtuoso 218-yard performance in a wild 56-49

regional semifinal win over Winnsboro. But that's not enough for anyone involved, least of all Prevo.

"As talented as he is, he is incredibly competitive," Willard said. "He wants to win any and everything he is doing. He just wants to win more than the person that he's going against."

That includes on the basketball court, where Prevo was a key piece of a Leopards' basketball team that finished the regular season with a perfect 34-0 record.

As he heads into his senior year, opponents can expect to see a lot of Prevo — and not necessarily in places they expect.

"He's going to play quarterback, play running back, play receiver, play corner, play safety,

linebacker," Willard said. "His next step is going to be putting the team on his back."

That includes an enhanced leadership role, something Prevo said he's ready to embrace.

"Leadership is keeping everybody happy, motivated, making sure they do the right thing — making sure everybody's good," Prevo said. "Really, it's just a mental thing. Just staying ready. That's it."

Readiness has never been an issue for Prevo, who's embraced every challenge that's come his way. Now with high expectations for himself and his team entering the 2025 season, he's ready to accept the challenge one last time.

"I just want to be the guy everybody can count on," Prevo said.

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Dequane PREVO

After a knee injury cost him his sophomore season, the Liberty-Eylau star made up for it in a big way, becoming one of 3A's most dangerous weapons.

Photo by Trey Pope

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Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A STATE RANKINGS

DIVISION I

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 COLUMBUS The champs lost star power, but the nuts and bolts are back	15-1	7/8
2.	 FRANKLIN The Lions have won 68 games over the last five seasons	10-3	6/5
3.	 PARADISE The Panthers' recent rise has them contending for a title	12-3	7/4
4.	 JEFFERSON A special junior class has the Bulldogs thinking big	12-1	6/6
5.	 EDNA New coach Jamie Dixon aims to keep standards sky-high	14-1	5/4
6.	 MALAKOFF The Tigers got hammered by graduation, but don't count them out	15-1	1/3
7.	 LIBERTY-EYLAU Playmakers abound in Brad Willard's second season	11-3	5/5
8.	 LLANO Between line play and the QB, the Jackets have sting	12-2	7/6
9.	 HITCHCOCK A special senior class graduated, but the defense will be sound	10-2	4/9
10.	 WINNSBORO Expect another year of high-flying Red Raiders offense	10-3	6/6
11.	 ATLANTA No team embodies East Texas speed like the Rabbits	7-4	5/6
12.	 SHALLOWATER This'll be a different team after graduating 28 seniors	11-3	4/3
13.	 JIM NED The defense will be stout; can the passing game develop?	9-4	6/7
14.	 PALESTINE WESTWOOD Panthers ready to turn the page after tumultuous '24	11-1	7/5
15.	 GOLIAD This team is fast, and they're deep — they're a problem	10-3	6/7
16.	 PALMER QB Eric Cisneros is one of TXHSFB's underrated stars	9-3	7/8
17.	 BUSHLAND It's a new-look Falcons team, but Jason Reynolds will coach 'em up	10-2	4/4
18.	 YOAKUM The young Bulldogs paid their dues in '24; now they strike	8-5	7/9
19.	 GRANDVIEW In a division with lots of turnover, the Zebras have veterans	7-5	7/8
20.	 FAIRFIELD A slew of three-year starters give the Eagles an edge	7-5	7/8
21.	 ORANGE GROVE Getting QB Linden Rodriguez back from injury is huge	8-4	8/6
22.	 CRYSTAL CITY Believe it: this could be the best Javelinas team in years	8-3	8/8
23.	 PEASTER The Greyhounds' steady rise hits a new level in '25	9-3	8/7
24.	 VERNON The front line is strong, but there are depth concerns	9-4	8/6
25.	 MARION The Bulldogs won't be huge, but they can flat-out fly	5-7	7/6

DIVISION II

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 GUNTER An offseason upheaval for the champs, but still the team to beat	14-2	2/5
2.	 TIDEHAVEN The Tigers are experienced, physical and hungry	12-3	9/8
3.	 WALL Could last year's big leap lead to a title run?	13-2	7/4
4.	 LEXINGTON Get to know the name QB Kase Evans; he leads a special offense	12-2	7/6
5.	 NEWTON This feels like a vintage Eagles team: fast and confident	9-4	6/8
6.	 WOODVILLE New coach Heath Clawson inherits a state finalist squad	13-3	5/3
7.	 HOLLIDAY What the Eagles lack in size, they make up in speed	11-3	6/6
8.	 CANADIAN An uncharacteristic "bad" year in '24...that still won 10 games	10-4	3/4
9.	 DAINGERFIELD The Tigers peaked late; can that carry over to 2025?	8-6	5/5
10.	 POTH QB Major Luna triggers a Pirates attack that could explode	12-1	4/4
11.	 EAST BERNARD The Brahmas have great depth for this level	10-2	6/6
12.	 BLANCO New coach Kent Walker has championship pedigree	7-4	6/7
13.	 DEKALB A speedy defense gives the Bears a chance to make some noise	11-2	6/8
14.	 TROUP Last year was just the beginning for a program on the come-up	8-4	9/9
15.	 JACKSBORO There's lots of buzz around Jack County about these Tigers	9-4	6/4
16.	 VAN VLECK Don't let the record fool you: this team peaked late	6-7	6/9
17.	 GRAND SALINE The arrow is pointing up for coach Joe Drennon's Indians	11-1	7/7
18.	 IDALOU A huge senior class graduated, but there's reinforcements coming	10-3	5/5
19.	 TOLAR Can the Rattlers replace their all-time winningest senior class?	11-2	4/4
20.	 WICHITA FALLS CITY VIEW Akeem Leviston, a rising star, takes over as head coach	9-3	7/7
21.	 SLATON Tigers could win first outright district title since 1994	7-4	8/9
22.	 ARP There's lots of experience here, including many three-year starters	7-4	7/7
23.	 BELLS The Panthers will have a size advantage in almost every game	7-5	9/7
24.	 BLUE RIDGE A massive offensive line gives them a unique edge	9-3	8/7
25.	 RICE CONSOLIDATED QB Kordae Johnson is a three-year starter with plenty around him	7-4	4/4

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A **PREVIEW**

FACING A CLASS-WIDE RESET, WHO STEPS UP?

BY GREG TEPPER

It's exceedingly rare that an entire classification of Texas high school football undergo the kind of tip-to-tail transformation that Class 3A experienced since the close of the 2024 season. From shocking coaching changes to what feels like a wholesale changeover of talent via graduation, the landscape is almost unrecognizable from the one Columbus and Gunter stood atop just months ago.

Call it Extreme Makeover: 3A Edition.

Perhaps no team is harder to figure than the reigning Division I champion Columbus. Fresh off their first title in dominant fashion, Matt Schobel's Cardinals signed a staggering four players to FBS teams, including their Mr. Texas Football quarterback Adam Schobel. And yet while the star power got dimmed, many of the nuts and bolts of the team — like receiver Braylon Fisher and lineman Keyon Hemphill-Woods — return to the fold. In a wide-open division, that's enough to keep them No. 1 to start the year.

Paradise has quietly emerged as a Region I power, reaching the regional final and state semifinal, respectively, in each of the last two seasons. Like seemingly everyone in Division I, there's rebuilding to do, but the one-two punch of quarterback Ayden Olalde and running back Luke Brown makes the Panthers an early favorite. If they should slip, look west for the biggest threats in Shallowater or Jim Ned.

The reset could be very real in Region II, where state finalist Malakoff faces the loss of arguably its best class ever. That could open the door for any number of East Texas challengers, most notably Jefferson, who could represent both the present and future of the region. But there are enough explosive playmakers here — like Liberty-Eylau's Dequane Prevo and Winnssboro's Camden Capehart — that could surge their squad to the regional crown.

Columbus navigated a treacherous Region III to win state last year, and it'll have to do it again, albeit with a new look. Franklin is one of the state's most consistently excellent teams over the last half-decade, but coach Mark Fannin will have to replace key pieces on their Slot-T offense. Hitchcock feels similar to Columbus, in that a transcendent senior class — with three FBS signees of its own — is gone, but many of the worker bees keep them in the mix. And then there's Palestine Westwood, which has a singular talent in quarterback Kavian Bryant seemingly capable of winning the region himself.

Region IV has run through Edna for the past three seasons, but a coaching change — Jimmie

Mitchell is puzzlingly out, Blanco's Jamie Dixon is in — could open things up, though two-way star Hunter Buehring disagrees. Llano feels like the chief challenger here, with quarterback Luke Davis back to trigger the attack.

On to Division II, and the single-most shocking development of the offseason. Gunter's machine has hummed for a decade — nine straight regional titles and five state championships, including each of the last three titles — which made coach Jake Fieszel's sudden and unexpected resignation in April all the more gobsmacking. It was already going to be a new-look Tigers team, returning just seven starters; now it may be unrecognizable. All of that said, the program has more than earned the benefit of the doubt — the Tigers start the year, trepidatiously, at No. 1.

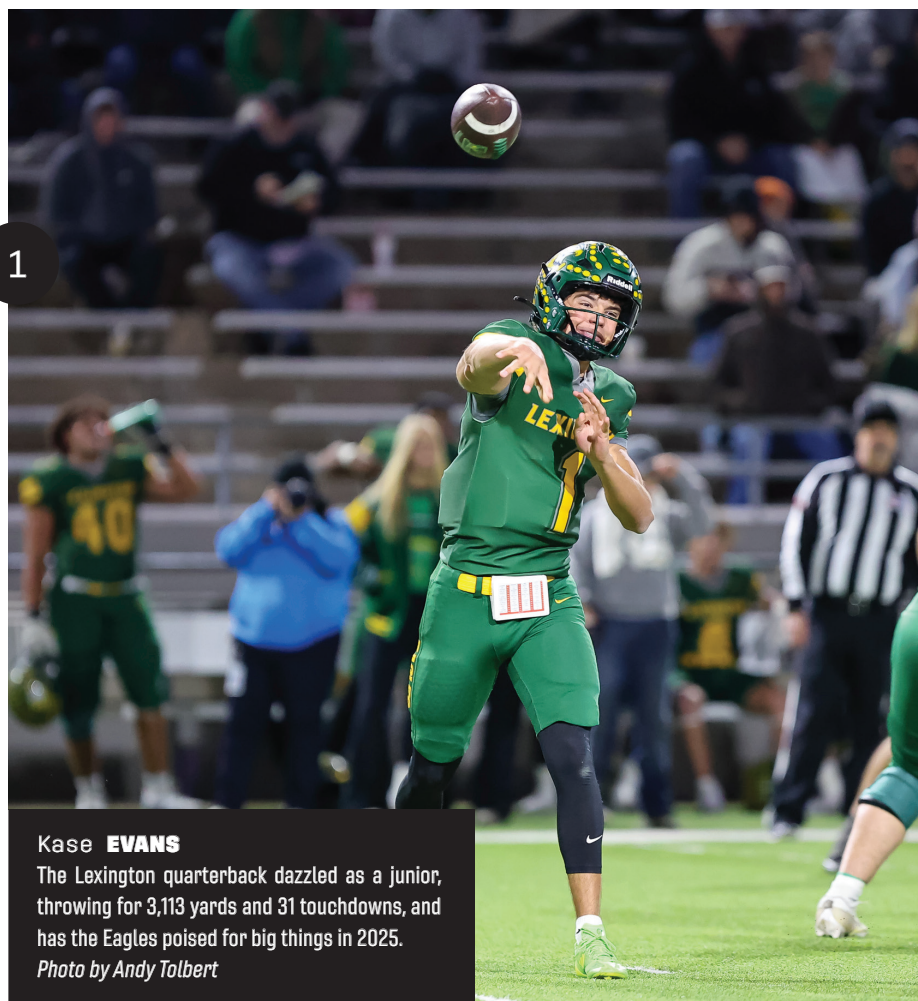
The champs' biggest scare in 2024 came from the Region I winner, but not its longtime nemesis Canadian. Instead, it's the Wall Hawks who took the regional crown, and they have no intention of surrendering it — quarterback Landon York and receiver Reid Robertson return to headline a high-flying and fast Hawks attack. Canadian remains in the hunt as well, and resurgent Idalou

and Slaton squads lurk on the periphery.

Gunter's stranglehold on Region II is unrelenting — the Tigers have won 36 consecutive regional playoff games by an average margin of 36 points — but if the upheaval in Grayson County loosens their grip, Holliday looks most likely to capitalize, if they can reload offensively. The sleeper here is Jacksboro, which brings high-flying quarterback Wyatt Gavit back into the fold.

Region III produced the classification's biggest party-crasher last season in Woodville, a state finalist who'd never even reached the third round of the playoffs prior. New coach Heath Clawson takes over a reloading Eagles squad, and he'll have to deal with what looks like a vintage Newton team and a Daingerfield squad hungry to finally get over the hump.

Down in Region IV, it feels like a two-horse race, both of whom have what it takes to win it all. Tidehaven has continuously proven everyone wrong over the past two seasons, and coach David Lucio's Tigers are loaded for bear in 2025 — 17 starters return, including quarterback Kale Russell. But if you like great quarterback play, you'll love Lexington's Kase Evans, who has the Eagles primed for a run at Arlington.



Kase EVANS

The Lexington quarterback dazzled as a junior, throwing for 3,113 yards and 31 touchdowns, and has the Eagles poised for big things in 2025.

Photo by Andy Tolbert

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Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A



Photo Credit: Hardy Burnett

Landon York | WALL QB



Photo Credit: Edna Athletics

Hunter Buehring | EDNA DL

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 3A? Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB



Photo courtesy Alpine Athletics

Alpine WR **DAEDRICK HARDWICK** led 3A in receptions with 89 catches for 1,161 yards...and over the course of two games last year, he had 5 INTs and returned two for scores.



Photo Credit: Billy York

Edgewood QB **TREVOR GOLIGHTLY** threw for 3,470 yards, ran for another 616 yards and totaled 52 touchdowns, all as a sophomore for the Bulldogs.

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 3A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

QB Landon York, Wall
RB KJ Porter, Newton
RB Jett Taylor, Grand Saline
WR Dequane Prevo, Liberty-Eylau
WR Braylon Fisher, Columbus
WR Camden Capehart, Winnsboro
OL Logan Kilcrease, Franklin
OL Cutter Smith, Lexington
OL Marcus Herrera, Canadian
OL Hudson Braden, Wall
OL Keyon Hemphill-Woods, Columbus
UTL X'Zavier Barnett, Yoakum
K Jacob Padron, Malakoff

Defense

DL Hunter Buehring, Edna
DL Dylan Walker, Newton
DL Jayden Bradford, Wichita Falls City View
DL Trent Yowell, Mineral Wells
LB Teagan Lambert, Paradise
LB Ben Castillo, Littlefield
LB Kaleb Menard, Orangefield
DB Tyrece McMillan, Diboll
DB Trevor Floyd, Edna
DB Rhett Kelley, Peaster
DB TJ Galvan, Tidehaven
UTL Jayvion White, Academy
P Kohl Collins, Fairfield



Photo Credit: John Michael Abel

David Lucio | TIDEHAVEN

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 3A, the top four teams in each district make the playoffs. They are then placed in their respective bracket, either Division I or Division II.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: Paradise over Shallowater
Region II: Jefferson over Liberty-Eylau
Region III: Columbus over Hitchcock
Region IV: Edna over Llano

DIVISION II

Region I: Wall over Canadian
Region II: Gunter over Holliday
Region III: Newton over Woodville
Region IV: Tidehaven over Poth

STATE CHAMP: COLUMBUS

This is a new-look Cardinals team, but there's enough talent, speed and swagger to get Matt Schobel's squad back to the mountaintop.

STATE CHAMP: GUNTER

To be clear, this is far from a sure thing after an enormous amount of turnover, but the three-time defending champs deserve the benefit of the doubt.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 3-3A DI

This is a deep group; Jim Ned vs. Sweetwater is the headliner, but watch for Comanche, Clyde and an improved Breckenridge.

DISTRICT 11-3A DI

It's more than just "where Franklin lives" — this Central Texas district is full of quality depth — and hot rivalries.

DISTRICT 15-3A DII

An eight-team 3A district? Important games start early here, and the Poth-Dilley-Cotulla battle royale will be very fun.

Class 3A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

CHILDRESS

The running game for the Bobcats should be superb thanks to a big line and a stable of backs.

WHITESBORO

With 20 starters back from a playoff team, Cody Fagan's Bearcats are ready to leap.

SAN DIEGO

New coach Matthew Garcia inherits a team ready to win now thanks to RB/LB Nick Luera.

BOLING

Last year's 3-7 record is a mirage — the Bulldogs had a number of close calls. Now, they're experienced.

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

AMARILLO RIVER ROAD WILDCATS (387)

Coach: Aaron Wampler. Letterman R/L: 12/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/0-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Mike Ramos (5-10, 215), DL Samuel Ndabarishe (6-1, 200), DB Ethan Ibarra (5-8, 155). Top juniors: OL/LB Braxton Perkins (5-9, 205).

2025 notes: New head coach Aaron Wampler ushers in a new era for River Road football taking over for 14-year head coach Bryan Welps, who resigned last spring. Wampler has seen success at Boys Ranch and Clarendon and leads by accountability. OL/DL Ramos is a leader that Wampler can rely on and is a very talented two-way player. DL Ndabarishe and DB Ibarra return on defense. There will be a lot of new faces that will have to find roles to get the Wildcats back to the playoffs.

BUSHLAND FALCONS (468)

Coach: Josh Reynolds. Letterman R/L: 16/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Colton Strickland (5-11, 185, 4.6), WR/DB Jenner King (5-11, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Jaxon Lawler (6-4, 250, 4.9), TE/DL Kade Schneider (6-5, 215, 4.7). Top juniors: RB/LB Colton Foote (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL/DL Brock Fisk, WR/DB Ty Tarango, OL Brody Searcy.

2025 notes: The Falcons will have a new look with a lot of pieces missing, but expectations

remain as one of the top small school teams in the Texas Panhandle. LB Strickland (83 tackles) and Lawler make up a solid linebacking group. WR King (537 yards, 5 TDs receiving) provides the pop on the outside and in the secondary. TE/DL Schneider brings much needed size to both sides of the ball.

DALHART GOLDEN WOLVES (473)

Coach: Joey Read. Letterman R/L: 23/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/1-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Hunter Trusler (6-2, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Brett Alver (6-2, 190, 4.7), WR/DB Caden Bird (5-11, 160, 4.5), OL/DL Geovani Barron (5-10, 240), OL/DL Jaylan Miller (6-3, 230), OL/DL Jose Vasquez (5-10, 220).

2025 notes: With the departure of a large senior class that included three-year leader Tyler Read, the Golden Wolves will definitely be looking to fill some key spots. QB Trusler (1,781 yards, 18 TDs passing) stepped up last year after a season ending injury to Read. Surrounding Trussler is RB Alver (260 yards) and WR Bird (294 yards). There will be some question marks up front, but OL Miller provides much-needed size.

SHALLOWATER MUSTANGS (509)

Coach: Rodney Vincent. Letterman R/L: 17/28. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 11-3 state quarterfinalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Cooper Martin (6-0, 185), OL/DL Champ Clanahan (6-3, 215), OL/DL Gerrit Boschma (6-1, 245), RB Rylan Brown (5-10, 160), WR/

2025 notes: After spending a year in administration, Duncan became the third head coach of the Mustangs in as many years. A large senior class gives Denver City plenty of depth to work with, but the Mustangs will be undersized in a district that Duncan thinks will be even tougher than it was in 2024 – when the Mustangs narrowly missed out on claiming a district championship. Duncan believes the Mustangs have the right weapons to claim the district title this year.

KERMIT YELLOW JACKETS (380)

Coach: John Fellows. Lettermen R/L: 18/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Avandre Scott-Marsh (5-10, 170, 4.8), WR/LB Armondo Urias (5-10, 180, 4.8), RB/LB Dre'Lyn Bossett (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Julian Chavez (5-9, 155, 4.7), WR/DB Miguel Cabrera (5-8, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Kaden Palonco (5-8, 195, 5.1). Top juniors: TE/LB Aalijah Navarette (5-10, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Ruben Hernandez (5-8, 190, 4.9). Top sophomore: ATH Ian Bejorono (5-7, 150, 4.8).

2025 notes: A strong senior class and having most of its starters back from last year should pay dividends for Kermit, even though the Yellow Jackets enter the season looking for a new quarterback. Whoever takes over the offense will benefit from a high energy player in RB/LB Scott-Marsh and a bruiser in RB/LB Bossett. WR/LB Urias is going to have to step into a two-way role while WR/DB Cabrera is entering his third season as a starter.

District 1-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Cooper Martin, Shallowater

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Colton Strickland, Bushland

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Shallowater
2. Bushland
3. Dalhart
4. Amarillo River Road

DB Maddox McDonald (5-11, 150), QB/WR/DB Logan Winn. Top juniors: WR/DB Gavin Guajardo (5-11, 175), OL/DL Truitt Vaughn (6-1, 235). Top sophomore: QB/DB Easton Foster.

Other prospects: RB/DB Daniel Rideout, OL/DL Bryson Richardson, WR/DB Conner Shires, WR/DB Rylen Jephcott, FB/LB Baize Barker, FB/LB Bryce Cooper.

2025 notes: It was a return to form for the Mustangs, making it to the regional finals. However, things will look a lot different in 2025 with the loss of 28 seniors. Fortunately, the JV was 9-0 and QB Martin (1,708 yards, 22 TDs passing) is back after showing his value last season as a leader and dangerous offensive player. RB Brown (800 yards) will play a bigger role than last year and WR/DB Winn gives Shallowater explosiveness at multiple positions.

BROWNFIELD CUBS (496)

Coach: Lawrence Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-11 bi-district finalist/0-3 district.

Players to watch: LB Joby Rodriguez (5-7, 165), ATH Trae Timmons (6-0, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Maverick Soto (6-2, 230), RB/LB Jeremiah Williams (5-6, 160), QB Jayden Salas (5-10, 155). Top junior: OL/DL Felipe Guillen (6-1, 225). Top sophomore: RB/LB Zach Soto (5-6, 160).

2025 notes: Despite the coaching change, the Cubs got a full offseason in Johnson's program as he was hired prior to the 2024 state championships, and that has him optimistic that the program will compete for a district championship. ATH Timmons will play a crucial role in all three phases of the game while LB Rodriguez is a defensive leader. OL/DL Soto will anchor the lines and be responsible for protecting QB Salas as he moves into the role of full-time starter.

DENVER CITY MUSTANGS (512)

Coach: Doug Duncan. Lettermen R/L: 30/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Abraham Velasco, RB/LB Darrell Bayona, OL/DL Manuel Espinoza, OL/DL Andres Hernandez, TE/DB Samrey Garcia, WR/DB Jacob Acosta.

Other prospects: WR/DB Gunner Bradley, OL/DL Gavin Farrel, WR/DB Erik Sinaloa, WR/DB Tony Briones, RB/LB Ezekiel Rodriguez, RB/LB Diego Velasquez, OL/DL Xavier Gutierrez, OL/DL Damian Martinez.

LAMESA GOLDEN TORNADOES (491)

Coach: Efrain Ramos. Lettermen R/L: 22/19. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Cylus McCurley (5-10, 175, 4.8), QB Daniel Ramos (5-10, 155, 5.0), DB MJ Johnson (6-1, 175, 4.7), OL Kutter Clement (6-3, 215, 5.0), OL Jordan Martinez (6-1, 302, 5.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Ty Martinez, WR/DB Logan Lopez, DL Ruben Cardoza, LB Zach Barron, RB DeeV Lugo.

2025 notes: The accuracy of pro-style QB Ramos has the Golden Tornadoes excited as they come off a district championship and look to take the next step this year. WR/DB McCurley (1,316 yards, 27 TDs receiving) has explosive speed and is a threat to score anytime he touches the ball. Where Lamesa grew the most this offseason was in the weight room, which Ramos expects to pay dividends for the defense.

District 2-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Cylus McCurley, Lamesa

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Abraham Velasco, Denver City

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Lamesa
2. Denver City
3. Brownfield
4. Kermit

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRECKENRIDGE BUCKAROOS (414)

Coach: Casey Pearce. Lettermen R/L: 17/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Christian Flores (5-10, 195, 4.9), TE/DL Douglas White (6-2, 210, 4.8), RB/DB Jaime Cruz (5-10, 190, 4.7), QB/LB Joseph Juneau (6-0, 190, 4.8), OL/DL Brandon Niblett (6-2, 260, 5.2), WR/DB Cameron David (6-0, 185, 4.6), ATH Gunnar Pearce (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Joaquin Fernandez (6-1, 235, 5.1), QB/DB Slayden Young (6-0, 175, 4.5), QB/DB Hudson Woodward, ATH Glenn Thibodeaux, OL/DL Carson Couch, WR/LB Ryan Waller, ATH Cooper Wimberley.

2025 notes: Pearce has high hopes that experience will have his squad in contention for a playoff berth this season. With eight returning starters on both sides of the football, players like RB/LB Flores, TE/DL White and RB/DB Cruz are expected to carry most of the workload.

CLYDE BULLDOGS (442)

Coach: Johnathon Haddock. Lettermen R/L: 15/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Devan Wright (5-10, 165, 4.5), RB/LB Miles Wilsher (6-0, 185, 4.6), OL Sean Smith (6-3, 315, 5.3), WR/DB Landon Deal (5-5, 150, 4.5), FB/LB Jeffery Watson (5-10, 185, 4.7), WR/DB Kyler Daily (5-9, 160, 4.5), OL/DL Garrett Tackett (6-1, 260, 5.1), TE/LB Sterling Wilson (6-1, 195, 4.9), ATH Hunter Demattis (5-10, 155, 4.5).

2025 notes: QB Wright is an explosive player who was named the district's offensive newcomer of the year, and the Bulldogs are expecting him to make a big jump at quarterback. He will benefit from an offensive line that features plenty of size with Smith and Tackett leading the way.

COMANCHE INDIANS (373)

Coach: Jake Escobar. Lettermen R/L: 13/17. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB LaDanian Smith (5-7,

162, 4.7), RB/LB Zaden Tello (5-11, 185), WR/DB Caden Buford (6-3, 181), OL/DL Peyton Baugh (6-0, 205), OL/DL Carlos Orozco (5-7, 230), WR/DB Adrian Reyes (5-7, 144), QB/LB Cooper Welch (6-3, 175), OL/DL Alexander Mendieta (5-11, 236), RB/DB Ryker Seegmiller (5-7, 145, 4.7), WR/DB Fernando Patino, TE/DE Caden Carroll.

2025 notes: Escobar will need QB/LB Welch to fulfill his potential leading the offense. Welch will have to grow quickly behind a young offensive line. The Indians also have a small junior class that will eat into their depth. As the young offense finds its stride, a defense led by RB/LB Tello will be responsible for carrying the load.

JIM NED INDIANS (460.5)

Coach: Johnathon McClure. Lettermen R/L: 23/22. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Aiden Ellis (5-11, 180), WR/DB Breck Lawson (6-2, 165), TE/LB Mason Miller (5-10, 190), RB/LB Stone Griffon (5-9, 175), TE/DL Michaiiah Powell (6-2, 215), OL/DL Caden Gibson (6-3, 240), QB/LB Tucker Deal (5-9, 190), WR/DB Cason Cumby (5-11, 175), OL/DL Ty Holguin (6-1, 200), OL/DL Dalton Baxter, WR/DB Stone Chase, WR/DB Gavin Brooks, WR/DB Camden Lewis, WR/DB Garon Beasley, OL/DL Brady Wallis, QB/LB Cash Gwinn.

2025 notes: Jim Ned will rely heavily on its defense, which McClure calls the strength of this year's squad. That strength starts with RB/LB Ellis, who, despite putting up video game numbers on offense, is a respected two-year defensive starter. WR/DB Lawson is another scoring threat.

SAN ANGELO TLC EAGLES (406)

Coach: Bradley Oh. Lettermen R/L: 23/2. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Braydon Kilgore (6-3, 330, 5.9), RB/LB Jackson Chacon (5-10, 200, 4.7), OL/DL Trey Huerta (5-10, 200, 5.0), QB Josiah Huddleson (5-10, 165, 4.7), TE/LB Romyn Zamora (6-2, 185, 4.8), TE/LB Eric

District 3-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Caiden Ortiz, Sweetwater

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Aiden Ellis, Jim Ned

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Tuscola Jim Ned | 5. Breckenridge |
| 2. Sweetwater | 6. San Angelo TLC |
| 3. Comanche | |
| 4. Clyde | |

Heitzenrater (6-0, 200, 4.9), WR/DB Josias Garcia (6-1, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Joseph Luna (5-10, 170, 4.7).

2025 notes: Oh is excited to see the team's growth under the bright lights on Friday nights. Seven different players received postseason all-district honors last year and the Eagles have reason to believe that they will be able to use OL Kilgore's size as a weapon in their running game.

SWEETWATER MUSTANGS (523)

Coach: Brian Hodnett. Lettermen R/L: 21/10. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Caiden Ortiz (5-9, 170, 4.7), LB Braxton Bartee (5-8, 175), RB/DB Amare Arevalo (5-9, 190, 4.6), RB/DE Uriah Aguilar-Rivera (5-9, 194), LB Jade Rodriguez (5-10, 190), OL/DL Jose Cruz (6-2, 290), WR/DB Darwin Blueford (5-10, 140), DB Mason Blueford (6-0, 185, 4.7), OL Brayton McIntosh.

2025 notes: Sweetwater fans have plenty of reasons to be excited for 2025. Leading the charge is experienced junior QB Caiden Ortiz (1,625 yards, 18 TDs passing), a starter since his freshman year. On defense, all-district standout LB Braxton Bartee (121 tackles, 2 sacks, 2 INTs) anchors the unit with toughness and leadership.

BOWIE JACKRABBITS (493)

Coach: Tyler Price. Lettermen R/L: 13/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/CB Ryder Mann (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR/DB Hunter Rodriguez (6-0, 180, 4.6), WR/CB Tyler Richey (6-1, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Noah Metzler (6-0, 215, 4.8), LB Griffin Richey (5-10, 195, 4.8), RB/LB Lane Whitfield (6-0, 195, 4.6), WR/LB Brady Horton (5-11, 190, 4.8), RB/DL Willie Brown (6-0, 210, 4.7), ATH Finn Riddle (5-11, 170, 4.7), OL Cody West, OL Trae Seigler, OL Jett Black, LB Kayden Neiss, RB/DL Tyson Jordan, WR/DB Colton Dosch, DL Jaxon White.

2025 notes: Bowie posted its best record since 2016, and with seven starters back on both sides of the ball, Price believes his team is ready to compete for a playoff spot.

BOYD YELLOWJACKETS (385)

Coach: Shawn Sparks. Lettermen R/L: 24/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Hunter Etter (6-0, 170, 4.6), LB Garrett Hunt (6-0, 205, 4.7), OL/DL Braxton Reasoner (6-4, 265), OL/DL Brody Jernigan (6-3, 245), TE/LB Jess Withers (6-1, 220, 4.9), ATH Cash Selby (6-0, 170, 4.6), QB/DB Will McIntire (6-1, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Layton Wheeler (5-10, 155, 4.6), WR/DB Drew Brinkley (5-9, 160, 4.7), RB/LB Stephen Webber, WR/DB Major Jennings, OL/DL Garrett Slump.

2025 notes: New head coach Shawn Sparks arrives after spending time as Saginaw's offensive coordinator. Despite Boyd's struggles in 2024, there's a lot of optimism, especially with WR/DB Etter making plays on both sides.

IOWA PARK HAWKS (541)

Coach: Bryan Wood. Lettermen R/L: 27/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Andrew McClain (6-3, 265), TE/LB Kane Decker (6-0, 180), WR/DB Coyt Schmader (5-8, 155), WR/DB Gideon Towner (6-1, 170), OL/DL Ethan Daub (5-10, 275), OL/DL Weston Welborn (6-0, 220), OL/DL Jacob Rodriguez (5-10, 280), WR/DB Carson McCord

(5-9, 155), QB Reed McClain (6-2, 180), RB/LB Brayden Moreno, RB/LB Cooper King, RB/LB Kota Johnson, WR/DB Riley Grace, WR/DB Kingston Ames, QB Paxson Allen, TE/LB Jaydin Cantrell, OL/DL Kane Hoover.

2025 notes: New head coach Bryan Wood arrives after a one-year stint in the college game to revitalize the Hawks program. Twenty-seven lettermen return so there's plenty of experience on hand.

PARADISE PANTHERS (384)

Coach: Tommy Koch. Lettermen R/L: 20/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 12-3 state semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Ayden Olalde (5-11, 185, 4.8), RB Luke Brown (6-0, 185, 4.5), RB/DB Elijah Jennings (5-9, 160, 4.5), LB Teagan Lambert (6-0, 170, 4.8), LB Cash Watson (5-7, 155, 4.6), LB Miles Godwin (6-0, 190, 4.8), RB Chase Harmon (5-10, 165, 4.6).

2025 notes: Fresh off its best season in school history, Paradise will look to keep the momentum going under new head coach Tommy Koch.

PEASTER GREYHOUNDS (512)

Coach: Trevor Owens. Lettermen R/L: 23/15. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: S Mark Tullous (6-1, 180, 4.7), ATH Cade McCullough (5-9, 150, 4.6), S Rhett Kelley (6-2, 170, 4.7), LB Hagan Hadley (6-1, 195, 4.7), WR Slayte Robertson (5-11, 175, 4.8), WR/LB Colt Turner (6-1, 180, 4.6), QB Layton Kennedy (6-2, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Chase Aleksick (5-10, 235), RB Hudson Salyers (5-10, 190, 4.6), DE Kane McConathy, RB/LB Kaden Albert, LB Walker Lacy.

2025 notes: The 'Hounds won their first playoff game in school history a year ago and could be even better in 2025. Junior QB Kennedy and sophomore RB Salyers lead the offense.

PONDER LIONS (536)

Coach: Marcus Schulz. Lettermen R/L: 31/10. Starters returning O/D: 10/8. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Tyson Price (6-2, 185, 4.6), WR/DB Terrize Mills (6-4, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Braydon

Brock (6-2, 180, 4.5), WR/DB Rece Faulkner (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Gage Ersch (5-9, 170, 4.5), OL Cayson Cox, OL Cason Boyd, LB Makson Allred, TE/DL Kannon Clark, OL/DL Henry Angeley, RB/DB Mason Shirley.

2025 notes: Ponder looks to jump back into the postseason with one of the state's most experienced squads, highlighted by QB Price.

VERNON LIONS (496)

Coach: Kevin Sherrill. Lettermen R/L: 20/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Ty Scott (5-6, 165, 4.5), RB Tru Gipson (5-5, 170, 4.5), WR Jamari Chance (6-1, 170, 4.5), LB Tyce Payne (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Bowie Eakin (5-4, 160, 4.6), OL Keigan Ballard (6-2, 265), DL Adrain Felton (6-0, 205, 4.7), OL Brayden Booth (5-11, 230), Mu Soe (5-6, 180, 4.9), OL Christian Gallegos, OL/DL Manny Ochoa, LB Donivan Montano, LB Kady White, DB David Albineda, OL Ethan Wilkinson, DL Jacob Brown, WR/DB Kayson Sanders, LB Mason Ballard.

2025 notes: The Lions had their deepest playoff run since 2014 a year ago. With a strong returning core, they could be a regional contender.

District 4-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Ayden Olalde, Paradise

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

S Mark Tullous, Peaster

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Paradise | 5. Iowa Park |
| 2. Peaster | 6. Bowie |
| 3. Vernon | 7. Boyd |
| 4. Ponder | |

DC TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

DAVE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

GRANDVIEW ZEBRAS (439)

Coach: Ryan Ebner. Lettermen R/L: 16/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 7-5 3A DI area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: LB/WR Bleu Hubbard (6-2, 205), DB/WR Kason Sanders (5-11, 182), QB Mason Landers (5-8, 175), RB/LB Elijah Dominguez (6-1, 200), DL/RB Hayden Harris (5-11, 170), OL Grant Davenport (6-4), OL/LB Cash Arthur (6-1, 185), OL/DL Kain Johnson, OL Jack Bason, LB Aiden Hill, DB Preston Davis, DB Hayden Moore.

2025 notes: Grandview is poised for a strong season, with a seasoned O-line paving the way for an improved attack. Quarterback Mason Landers is more comfortable in his second year leading the offense, while two-way threats LB/WR Bleu Hubbard and DB/WR Kason Sanders add firepower. Depth remains a challenge, but the Zebras have their sights set on a district title battle with Mexia.

GROESBECK GOATS (500)

Coach: Nelson Kortis. Lettermen R/L: 30/5. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 4-6/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Nick Sanchez (5-10, 180), OL/DL Aiden Moss (6-3, 280), DB/WR Avrian Rya (5-11, 170), RB/LB Ja'marya Hall (5-10, 180), WR/DB Cannon Campbell (5-10, 165), WR/DB Omby Jones, DB/WR Le'Zavian Gibson, LB/RB Kale Watton, LB/RB Reiter Sanford, WR/DB Rafe Sanford.

2025 notes: With Jerry Bomar's retirement, Groesbeck enters a new era under Nelson Kortis. WR/LB Sanchez is a two-way star, and OL/DL Moss will hold it down up front. Groesbeck has returning experience on both sides of the ball. Can the Goats rally in 2025?

MAYPEARL PANTHERS (379)

Coach: Nicolas De La Cerda. Lettermen R/L: 24/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Collin Brooks (5-9, 160, 4.8), RB/LB Texas Wyant (5-8, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Tristan Brooks (5-10, 170, 4.6), RB/LB Hunter Davis (6-0, 185,

4.7), OL/DL Cutter Baggett (6-0, 250, 5.4).

2025 notes: The Panthers return a strong core on both sides of the ball and are confident heading into 2025 under new head coach Nicolas De La Cerda, a former assistant on last year's playoff team. Maypearl is leaning on its established culture and recent success to maintain momentum.

MEXIA BLACKCATS (524)

Coach: Aaron Nowell. Lettermen R/L: 13/25. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Steven Milus (5-10, 212, 4.5), QB Aiden Cargile (5-11, 185, 4.8), DL/OL Keydralin Hudson (6-2, 250, 5.0), OL/DL Montrell Carter (5-10, 265, 5.1), ATH Kelan Collins (6-0, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Gabriel Gutierrez (6-2, 295, 5.3), LB/WR Kash Williams (6-0, 170, 4.5), LB/RB Kentrell Connor (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Kadya Molina, WR/DB Kaleb Molina, WR/LB Keithen Davis, RB/DB Jeremiah Middleton.

2025 notes: Mexia faces the challenge of replacing 17 starters, but this group is confident it can compete. The Blackcats bring back a large pool of lettermen with varsity experience, and while it may take a few weeks to find their rhythm, they expect to hit their stride quickly. Speed remains a strength, though size up front is limited.

WEST TROJANS (383)

Coach: David Woodard. Lettermen R/L: 24/11. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 5-5/2-3 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Ayden Rideout (5-10, 195, 4.8), DB/WR Ledger Nardell (5-11, 170, 4.8), LB James Darnell (5-10, 170, 4.8), DL/OL Parker Pustejovsky (6-0, 205, 5.0), OL/DL Ayden Poteet (6-7, 275, 5.3), WR/DB Aidan Green (5-10, 150, 4.7), WR/LB Kai Cook (6-0, 180, 4.7), LB Hunter Petter (6-0, 170, 4.8), RB/LB Jason Macik (5-9, 150, 4.7), DB Bryce Cunningham, OL/DL TJ Adam, LB David Willis, OL/DL Anthony Hernandez.

2025 notes: West aims to build on a five-win 2024, returning nine starters on both sides of the ball. The Trojans are experienced, with many underclassmen

A+ ACADEMY KNIGHTS (471)

Coach: Michael Scott. Lettermen R/L: 20/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Abdiel Gurola (6-0, 180), RB Kameron Wells (5-8, 175), RB Diego Soto (5-7, 180), OL/DL Damian Navarette (5-10, 220), TE Angel Cano (6-1, 185), OL/DL Juan Amador (5-9, 230), QB Emmanuel Mendoza (5-10, 160), WR Jasciel Rocha (5-7, 150), CB Cameron Cofield (5-8, 150), CB Trasean Williams, WR Jose Castillo, DL Jordan Smith, DB Henry Garcia, WR Jordan Bolton, K Emmanuel Sanchez, OL/DL Daniel Rodriguez, OL/DL Eduardo Jaramillo.

2025 notes: Scott's team went with a youth movement a year ago and took their fair share of lumps, but they should be better for it in 2025.

DALLAS LIFE OAK CLIFF LIONS (477)

Coach: Welton Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 21/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 6-2/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Camren Phillips (6-0, 180), WR/CB Sukora Cooper (6-1, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Ke'Derek Wilson (5-10, 220), RB Jataavion Smith-Adams (5-9, 190, 4.8), OL Therion Bluiett (5-10, 240), WR Maliek Cole (6-0, 180), OL Jayden Cardenas (6-3, 240), WR Torrance Gort (5-7, 135), DL Kylan Gardner (6-0, 220), LB Cameron Beaty, OL Christian Arriaga, DE Jace King, LB Marco Angeles.

2025 notes: Johnson's bunch is primed to take a step forward with eight back on both sides of the ball. QB Phillips had a breakout freshman season and is back to lead the offense.

DALLAS MADISON TROJANS (391)

Coach: Marcus Gates. Lettermen R/L: 14/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Nicholas Davis (6-3, 265), LB Clayton Brim (5-11, 215, 4.6), OL/DL Joe Araujo (6-0, 260), OL Dekeyvion Brown (5-11, 190), WR/DB Broderick Bro (5-10, 175, 4.6), LB Morris Washington (5-10, 180, 4.6), QB Randy Hudson (6-1, 185, 4.6), WR/DB Damarriax Nixon (6-2, 175, 4.6), ATH Adairian Alexander, DL Lamonta Buford, OL/DL Anthony Prosper, OL/DL Sandle Ball, WR Kendrick Carter, DL Ramon Aguilar.

2025 notes: The Trojans fell to their worst record since 2003 a year ago, and despite just four starters returning on both sides of the ball, long-time coach Marcus Gates believes his team will be improved.

PALMER BULLDOGS (388)

Coach: Blake Bost. Lettermen R/L: 23/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Eric Cisneros (6-2, 175), WR/DB A.J. Cisneros (5-11, 175), WR/DB Jonathan Ventura (6-0, 170), OL/DL Nathaniel Junkin (6-0, 230), RB Sutton Maddox (5-9, 195), WR/DB Kennen Korey (5-9, 160), OL/DL Cole Spurlock (6-2, 215), WR/DB Brandon Freeman (6-1, 170), OL/DL Traeshawn Gibbons (6-2, 275), WR/DB Matthew Martinez, OL/LB Brandon Junkin, TE/LB Casey Taylor, TE/LB Rylan McDowell, OL/DL Frankie Villarreal, OL/DL Jayden Villarreal, OL/DL Blake Keimig, WR/K Holden Smith.

2025 notes: Moving up to Division I didn't phase PHS, as the Bulldogs rolled to a district title and an area round playoff appearance. QB Cisneros is a four-year starter who will lead the offense.

PILOT POINT BEARCATS (461)

Coach: Chad Worrell. Lettermen R/L: 27/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/10. 2024: 4-8 area finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Caden David (5-10, 200, 4.7), RB Josh Chumley (6-0, 185, 4.7), FS Ashton Williamson (5-11, 175, 4.6), LB Elijah Jackson (5-11, 180, 4.8), WR/CB Hunter Newman (5-10, 170, 4.6), OL/DT Daniel Medrano (5-9, 205), TE/DT Caden LeMaye (6-2, 230, 4.9), QB Garrett Evans, RB/CB Dre James.

2025 notes: Pilot Point surged late in the year and earned a playoff win. With 19 starters back they are poised to take a big leap in 2025.

POTTSBORO CARDINALS (462)

Coach: Matt Poe. Lettermen R/L: 14/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Cayden Humphrey (6-0, 195, 4.6), WR Xavier Brady (6-1, 185, 4.6), RB/LB Carson Nix (6-1, 195, 4.6), OL/DL Brock Hill (6-1, 230), WR Garrett

District 5-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Kobe Haynes, Whitney

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Bleu Hubbard, Grandview

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Grandview
2. Whitney
3. West
4. Mexia
5. Maypearl
6. Groesbeck

gaining valuable reps last season. While they may lack a true big-play threat, their toughness and depth could make them the team to beat in District 5-3A. Can West turn that experience into a playoff push and return to the dominant form it was in 2021 and 2022?

WHITNEY WILDCATS (448)

Coach: David Haynes Jr. Lettermen R/L: 25/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Kobe Haynes (6-1, 190, 4.5), RB Jontae Johnson (5-6, 155, 4.5), DL Khrys Johnson (6-1, 240, 4.9), RB Delvion Walter (5-7, 155, 4.6), RB Angel Saucedo (5-9, 160, 4.6), LB KJ O'Hearn (6-0, 185, 4.7), DB Jacob Lessman (6-1, 165, 4.7), LB Colt Poore (5-11, 200, 4.8), DB Jaxon Landrum, DL JaCaiden Overstreet, OL Jacob Huggins, OL Tyler Farmer, OL Ryan Ponder.

2025 notes: Whitney returns eight starters on offense and nine on defense, giving the Wildcats a strong foundation in 2025. WR Haynes and RB Johnson lead a dynamic attack that will challenge opposing defenses. With experience across the board, the Wildcats aim to return to the regional semifinal stage like in 2023.

Dorris (6-0, 175, 4.8), RB/DE Brody Burdette (6-1, 190, 4.7), WR/DB Brady Wynn (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Kingston Elrod, DB Brooks Newberry, OL/DL Sam Bocox, OL/DE Caleb Watson, DL Gentry Morrow, WR Landon Goodman, WR Brayden Sheffield, DB Cole Barker.

2025 notes: The Cardinals return some explosive talent on offense that could be key in getting back to regional contention after first round losses in three of the last four years.

WHITESBORO BEARCATS (508)

Coach: Cody Fagan. Lettermen R/L: 28/6. Starters returning O/D: 11/9. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Brayden Bomar (5-9, 165, 4.7), QB/P Colt Fagan (5-8, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Korbin Ross (5-7, 160, 4.8), OL/DL Elijah Hines (6-5, 275), ATH Mason Scarbrough (5-6, 150, 4.9), WR/DB Rhet Rudzinski (5-5, 150, 4.8), DL/K Victor Chavez (5-8, 190), OL/DL Lane Espinosa (5-10, 210), RB/LB Ayce Nelson (5-9, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Shayne Gabbert.

2025 notes: Expect Whitesboro to be right in the thick of the district title chase with one of the most experienced teams in the state. QB Fagan returns to pilot the offense after a strong sophomore campaign.

District 6-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Eric Cisneros, Palmer

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Brayden Bomar, Whitesboro

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Palmer
2. Pottsboro
3. Whitesboro
4. Pilot Point
5. DaL. Life Oak Cliff
6. Dallas Madison
7. DaL. A+ Academy

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

COMMERCE TIGERS (485)

Coach: John McSheffery. Lettermen R/L: 23/18. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Malik Garcia (6-1, 165, 4.4), DB/WR Brandon Anderson (6-1, 155, 4.6), OL Bentley Bell (6-2, 210, 4.8), DL Mar'Kaden Mapps (5-10, 225, 5.2), WR/DB Donovan Maria (6-0, 155, 4.7), OL Jaddan Coleman (6-0, 275). Top juniors: RB/LB Ky'Mani Graham (5-8, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Lukah Selvaggi (5-8, 140, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB/DB Dallas Dezern (5-9, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Carlos Rios, OL Jacori Hearn, ATH Akash Pachkoti, DL Markease Aubrey, OL Stephen Gibson, DL Kentrell Greer, LB Alan Rios, LB Austin Cook.

2025 notes: The Tigers made a quick turnaround after a slow start in 2024 to earn a playoff spot, and solid numbers return on both sides of the ball to keep things trending upward. Garcia (29 tackles, 3 INTs) is a dynamic player who makes plays in all phases of the game — as evidenced by his 5 TDs on kickoff and punt returns. DL Mapps (59 tackles, 15 TFL, 9.5 sacks) creates havoc with great technique and effort.

EMORY RAINS WILDCATS (522)

Coach: Bryan Oakes. Lettermen R/L: 16/17. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jabari Shields (5-11, 185, 4.5), RB Taisean Shields (5-10, 180, 4.4), OL/DL Jason Jones (5-8, 235, 5.0), DB/WR Nate Scott (5-7, 155, 4.5), DL Jayden Sheridan (5-8, 245, 5.2). Top juniors: WR/DB Jordan Hobbs (6-1, 175, 4.8), OL Nicholas Salinas (5-8, 225, 5.1). Top sophomore: WR Kaiden Hargrove (5-6, 145, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB/DB Menghy Ly, DB Rodney Gilcreast, OL/DL Juan Rodriguez.

2025 notes: The Wildcats have questions on the OL and lack ideal experience at the varsity level overall, but opponents can expect a heavy dose of the Shields brothers — Jabari (623 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 14-268 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 273 yards, 4 TDs passing) and Taisean (889 yards, 10 TDs rushing; 36 tackles, 6 TFL) — and a relentless, up-tempo offensive attack. Jones (43 tackles, 2 sacks) and Scott (2 INTs) are back to head up the defense.

EUSTACE BULLDOGS (467)

Coach: Zack Hudson. Lettermen R/L: 13/22. Starters returning: 3/5. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Aangel Jackson (5-10, 195, 4.9), RB Ethan Gallet (5-9, 175, 4.8), RB Ethan Marquez (5-10, 210, 4.9), RB Mason Patek (5-9, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: DB Preston Sy (5-9, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: TE/DL Tieler Graham, OL/DL Jackson Hernandez.

2025 notes: Expect the Bulldogs to experience some growing pains early while breaking in a new QB and new OL, but Hudson believes his team will develop as the season rolls along. Jackson (53 tackles) is a veteran leader on the defensive side, and RBs Gallet (559 yards, 3 TDs rushing), Patek (658 yards, 5 TDs rushing) and Marquez (24-204 yards, 3 TDs receiving) give the Bulldogs a chance to put points on the board.

MALAKOFF TIGERS (402)

Coach: Jamie Driskell. Lettermen R/L: 16/16. Starters returning: 1/3. 2024: 15-1 state finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jerrion Hall (5-9, 180, 4.5), DL Daniel Norrell (6-0, 280, 5.2), RB/LB Davion Johnson (5-7, 160, 4.6), DB/WR Wyatt Wallace (5-10, 175, 4.6), LB/TE Weston Jedlicka (6-0, 180, 4.8), OL Heath Piedra (6-2, 230, 5.2). Top juniors: WR/DB Nasir Ross (6-0, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Jack Driskell (5-10, 155, 4.8). Top sophomore: QB/DB Canyon Marsh (6-2, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/LB Rylan Smith, OL/DL Dearius Moore, OL Bear Leis, OL/DL Brian Meadows, OL/DL Landon Keyton, DB/WR Ryland Shorb, DL Hunter Rush, PK Jacob Padron.

2025 notes: Graduation wasn't kind to the Tigers, but don't expect much drop off from a team that has 31 wins, a state title and a runner-up finish the past two seasons. OL Piedra is the lone returning starter on offense, but RB Hall (733 yards, 13 TDs rushing) is an explosive weapon who made the most of his playing time a year ago. Norrell (69 tackles) is a hard man to block in the trenches.

District 7-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Camden Capehart, Winnsboro

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jerrion Hall, Malakoff

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Malakoff | 5. Emory Rains |
| 2. Winnsboro | 6. Mount Vernon |
| 3. Commerce | 7. Eustace |
| 4. Mineola | |

MINEOLA YELLOWJACKETS (479.5)

Coach: Luke Blackwell. Lettermen R/L: 18/9. Starters returning: 7/7. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Austin Blalock (5-9, 175, 4.9), OL/DL Juan Cervantes (6-0, 297, 5.6), OL/DL Eddrick Irving (5-8, 220, 5.1), RB/DB Braelyn Geremonte (5-9, 170, 4.8), QB/DB Kipton Neighbors (6-0, 173, 4.6), TE/DL Gabriel Thompson (6-0, 170, 5.2). Top junior: OL/DL Grayson Dupont (5-11, 305). Top sophomore: WR/DB Steven Reyes (5-9, 150, 4.9).

Other prospects: WR/DB Ainsley Steward, WR/DB Zane Phillips, LB Eddie Guerra, TE/LB Landon McClung, TE/DL Jose Silva, OL/DL Elijah Zavala.

2025 notes: Both of Mineola's wins came in district play last season, earning the Yellowjackets a playoff spot. Depth is a concern, but experienced line play and the return of QB Neighbors (803 yards, 6 TDs rushing; 349 yards, 6 TDs passing; 24 tackles, 2 INTs) and RB Geremonte (731 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 23 tackles) should keep the offense humming. DB Reyes (55 tackles, 7 TFL) is back to lead the defense after a solid freshman year.

MOUNT VERNON TIGERS (484)

Coach: Travis McClain. Lettermen R/L: 23/14. Starters returning: 6/5. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Ryder Bowers (6-1, 198, 4.5), OL Son Tran (5-10, 230, 4.8), RB Dawson Witherspoon (5-10, 170, 4.6), ATH Hunter Carrell (5-10, 170, 4.6), WR Wesley Salinas (6-2, 185, 4.7), OL C.J. Clayton (5-9, 230). Top juniors: WR/DB Brayden Baker (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL Connor McCurdy (6-4, 270). Top sophomore: QB Jackson Grey (6-1, 180, 4.8).

Other prospects: LB Landry Moss, DL Jesus Gutierrez, DL Tanner Hoffman.

2025 notes: Coach McClain says the team needs to focus on building depth, but he believes a strong senior class will set the tone for an effective run game and an aggressive defense. Bowers is a long, physical athlete who will contribute on both sides, and Tran brings experience and consistency to the OL. Expect Witherspoon (650 yards, 5 TDs rushing) to carry the offensive load—he has rushed for more than 3,000 yards entering his senior year.

WINNSBORO RED RAIDERS (496)

Coach: Josh Finney. Lettermen R/L: 27/15. Starters returning: 6/6. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Camden Capehart (5-9, 160, 4.3), RB Neree Castleberry (6-2, 210, 4.6), QB Nolee Carroll (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR Braxton Espinoza (5-10, 160, 4.7), PK Rudy Calderon (5-6, 170, 5.0). Top juniors: OL/DL Karson McNeil (6-3, 265, 4.9).

Other prospects: LB Colsen Hammons, DB Sam Sheffield, DB Ben Sheffield, DB Clark Bryant, LB Stanton Hood, TE Troy Bassett.

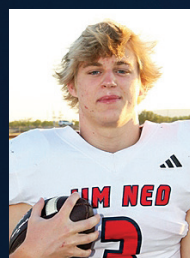
2025 notes: The Red Raiders turned games into track meets in 2024, scoring 70 points three times and averaging almost 50 points per game. With WRs Capehart (56-1,379 yards, 25 TDs receiving) and Espinoza (46 catches) and QB Carroll (2,771 yards, 23 TDs passing) back, don't expect the offense to slow down much. LB Hammons (107 tackles) and DB Bryant (90 tackles, 3 INTs) are solid holdovers on the defensive side of the ball.



Cooper
MARTIN
QB
Shallowater



Christian
FLORES
RB/LB
Breckenridge



Aiden
ELLIS
RB/LB
Tuscola Jim Ned



Mark
TULLOUS
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Peaster



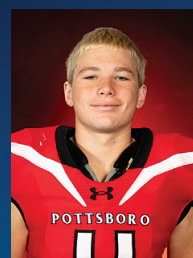
Ty
SCOTT
QB
Vernon



Camren
PHILLIPS
QB
Dallas Life Oak
Cliff



Eric
CISNEROS
QB
Palmer



Cayden
HUMPHREY
QB
Pottsville

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ATLANTA RABBITS (504)

Coach: Tyler Morton. Lettermen R/L: 25/15. Starters returning: 5/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Jayden Riley (5-7, 175, 4.5), WR/DE C.J. Whatley (6-5, 210, 4.7), RB Marshawn Woodberry (5-8, 190, 4.6), DL Kameron Williams (6-3, 240, 4.9), WR/DB Deandre Simmons (6-3, 175, 4.6), DB Kayden Linwood (5-10, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: DE Dailen Collins (6-3, 180, 4.9), DL/OL Jaylen Finley (5-10, 290, 5.2). Top sophomore: DB T.J. Rainey (5-8, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Eli Mitchell, OL Nate Hernandez, QB Evan Mitchell, OL Charles Tyson, OL Landon Harper, QB Huntley Fisher, LB Layne Wellington, DB Kason Byrd.

2025 notes: Graduation took away experience in some key positions, but you can always count on the Rabbits having speed to play with anyone. WR Riley (52-921 yards, 13 TDs receiving) is one of the most dangerous players in East Texas with the ball in his hands, and DL Williams (55 tackles, 15.5 TFL, 3 sacks) is a motor kid who Morton believes will play at the next level. OL Hernandez has 33 starts under his belt.

GLADEWATER BEARS (468.5)

Coach: Jermaine Lewis. Lettermen R/L: 6/4. Starters returning: 8/11. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Aubrey Floyd (5-8, 145, 4.8), RB Carsin Cooper (5-11, 190, 4.6), QB Luke Brown (6-1, 180, 4.7), LB Mason Budro (6-0, 180, 5.1). Top juniors: RB Trayvon Watts (5-10, 175, 4.8), DL Amarion Minter (6-1, 195, 4.8). Top sophomore: DB Landon King (5-11, 162, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Anthony Sanchez, ATH Kayson Harris, FB Grafton Morgan, DB Maddaxx Vasquez, WR/DB Caleb Balcara, DL Dion Patton, DB Za'Kevion Watson, PK Korbin Sergio.

2025 notes: First-year head coach Lewis said consistency will be the key for a team that scored 39 points per game in four wins, but allowed 43 points per outing in six losses. Watts (826 yards rushing) and Brown (1,155 yards, 5 TDs in nine starts) are solid holdovers on offense, and Budro (112 tackles) and Minter (33 tackles, 10 sacks) bring back solid experience and numbers to the defensive side of the ball.

JEFFERSON BULLDOGS (375)

Coach: Ty Taylor. Lettermen R/L: 17/17. Starters returning: 6/6. 2024: 12-1 region finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Kabin Tomlinson (5-11, 195, 4.7), QB/DB Chance Washington (6-2, 175, 4.7), WR Travis Gray (5-10, 150, 4.6), LB Del Brown (5-10, 177, 4.7), RB Jacoby Morrow (6-0, 174, 4.5), WR Avery Lawson (6-1, 173, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Kingston Nelson (6-1, 293, 5.1), RB/WR Jermaine Hopkins Jr. (5-7, 155, 4.8). Top sophomore: DL Bryston Mosely (225, 5.0).

Other prospects: LB Kaden Parish, RB/WR Tre Moss, RB/WR Ethan Maxwell, DL Jason Webster, DL Aaron Bellard, OL Keiland Williams, LB Xzayden Else.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs lost tremendous playmakers at QB and RB, but a veteran junior class led by LB Tomlinson (134 tackles), projected QB starter Washington (39 tackles, 3 INTs), WR Gray (668 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and WR Hopkins (204 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 407 yards, 7 TDs rushing) will keep the drop off at a minimum. Keep an eye on LB Brown (87 tackles; 109 yards rushing) and under-the-radar prospect Lawson (244 yards, 3 TDs receiving).

LIBERTY-EYLAU LEOPARDS (538)

Coach: Brad Willard. Lettermen R/L: 20/20. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 11-3 regional finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Dequane Prevo (6-0, 175, 4.4), DL Zamanthyre Haire (6-0, 275), RB Arian Taylor (5-11, 180, 4.6), LB Maliki Stephens (6-2, 185), LB Luke Baysinger (6-2, 210), OL Jalen Murphy (6-1, 255). Top juniors: DB Za'Welch (5-11, 160, 4.4), DB Tray Bragg (5-10, 145, 4.5). Top sophomore: DL Jayden Williams (5-11, 220).

Other prospects: WR Quayvion Moore, LB James Gooden, OL Keith Newton, DL Keston Griffith, DB Braylun Green, RB/DB Jakaes Bell.

2025 notes: The Leopards made a remarkable eight-win turnaround last season under first-year

District 8-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Dequane Prevo, Liberty-Eylau

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Kabin Tomlinson, Jefferson

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Jefferson | 5. Tatum |
| 2. Tex. Liberty-Eylau | 6. White Oak |
| 3. Atlanta | 7. Gladewater Sabine |
| 4. Gladewater | |

head coach Willard, and plenty of weapons are back to keep the program trending upward. WR/DB Prevo (72-1,541 yards, 21 TDs receiving) can do it all, and the same can be said for DL Haire. Taylor (1,331 yards, 11 TDs rushing) is a physical runner who will only get better, and Stephens (140 tackles, 4 sacks) is always around the football.

SABINE CARDINALS (454)

Coach: Cody Gilbert. Lettermen R/L: 16/14. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: TE/LB Lincoln Royce (6-0, 195, 4.7), OL/DL Kelton Lee (6-0, 280), WR/DB Landry Laird (6-1, 170, 4.5), WR/DB Charles Gipson (5-9, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Gavin Stewart (6-0, 260), WR/DB Cole Loveless (5-9, 145, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Terry Vanden (5-7, 140, 4.4), OL/DL Christopher Marmolejo (6-2, 320). Top sophomore: WR/DB Warren Royal (5-9, 155, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB Hunter Murry, WR/DB Ashton Tave, RB/DB Damin Richardson, QB/TE Griffin Dehoyos, QB/DB Syler Pierce (6-0, 155, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Cardinals were on a roll last season, scoring 92 points in the first two games before losing a standout QB to injury in the third game of the season. They scored 59 points the rest of the season, and will be young at spots again in 2025. Play on the OL and DL should be improved, and TE Royce along with WRs Laird, Gipson and Loveless should make some noise.

TATUM EAGLES (448)

Coach: Whitney Keeling. Lettermen R/L: 13/17. Starters returning: 2/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Grant Adcock (6-0, 165, 4.8), DL Damarion Tolbert (6-1, 295, 4.8), OL Harrison Freeman (5-10, 235, 5.1), RB Dameron Pippins (5-8, 165, 4.8), LB Qwardai Peoples (6-2, 205, 4.5). Top junior: LB Quincy Davis (6-3, 190, 4.8).

2025 notes: Tatum averaged six wins per season under veteran head coach and two-time state champion (Waskom) Keeling, but needs a QB to emerge to take it to the next level. Adcock will get the first shot under center, and he has a solid center returning in Freeman. Look for big things from LB Peoples, who was injured last year but had 47 tackles and 11 TFL in 2023.

WHITE OAK ROUGHNECKS (390)

Coach: Michael Ludlow. Lettermen R/L: 17/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-5/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/ATH Jaxsen Ludlow (6-0, 170, 4.5), RB/S Levi Snipes (6-2, 200), WR/DB Logan Ladwig (5-9, 165, 4.5), K Brady Prazak (5-9, 150), WR/DB Tyson McKinney (5-8, 145), LB Cameron Venable (6-0, 185). Top juniors: DL/DL Cooper Bridges (6-3, 245), WR/DB Tysen McLain (6-1, 160).

Other prospects: OL/DL Dakota Greene, LB/TE Bryce Morgan, OL/DL Caden Durham, LB/HB Jacob Watson, WR/DB Branton Wood, OL/DL Connor Hodges, OL/DL Jose Garcia, LB/RB Kenny Poul.

2025 notes: A solid senior class, plus two years in coach Ludlow's system, should pay dividends. The Roughnecks will lean on dynamic QB/ATH Ludlow (2,103 yards, 23 TDs passing; 875 yards, 11 TDs rushing), who earned all-state honors as both a signal-caller and a punter. RB/S Snipes (406 yards, 4 TDs rushing; 65 tackles, 3 TFL) is a force on both sides of the ball. The front-line talent in the trenches, led by OL/DL Bridges, is solid, but there's not much depth.



Brayden BOMAR
ATH
Whitesboro



Malik GARCIA
WR/DB
Commerce



Jerrion HALL
RB/LB
Malakoff



Austin BLALOCK
LB
Mineola



Jaxsen LUDLOW
QB/ATH
White Oak



Kohl COLLINS
QB
Fairfield



Kavian BRYANT
QB
Palestine
Westwood



Jaden COLE
RB/LB
Teague

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CROCKETT BULLDOGS (389)

Coach: JD Jordan. Lettermen R/L: 20/14. Starters returning: 7/7. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Dekorian Butler (5-11, 180, 4.6), QB/DB Jaylen White (6-3, 175, 4.9), RB/LB Ja'Corrion Griffin (5-9, 202, 4.9), OL/DL Joshua Bell (5-11, 255, 5.6), OL/DL Chaz Gray (6-1, 245, 5.6), WR/DB Erron Hall (5-11, 168, 4.5), WR/DB Rafael Whiting (6-0, 162, 4.8), OL/DL Darrell Creag (6-2, 238, 5.4), RB/LB Jacques McKnight (5-9, 175, 4.8), QB/LB Julian Adams, WR/DB Jayrian Cook, WR/DB Roberto Hidalgo, WR/DB Jahkeim McKnight, WR/DB Logan Porter, OL/DL Javone Bolton, OL/DL Thaddeus Haynes, OL/DL Mark Pervis.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs are solid up front, especially with the return of Bell, first-team all-district pick Gray, Creag, Bolton and Haynes, but playmakers must emerge if the team hopes to battle for a playoff spot. A good place to start is newcomer of the year White.

DIBOLL LUMBERJACKS (501)

Coach: Blake Morrison. Lettermen R/L: 18/14. Starters returning: 3/5. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Decarlos Sanchez (5-11, 181, 4.6), DB Tyrece McMillan (6-0, 174, 4.6), OL Kade Jordan (6-0, 308, 5.6), OL Jamarous Nieves (6-2, 218, 5.3), DB Erin Robbins (6-0, 157, 4.6), OL Andres Montoya (5-10, 281, 5.6), RB Alexander Arambula, LB Luis Arambula, QB Franco Rodriguez, WR Jaxon Taylor, DL Barrett Price, LB Eli Terrell, WR Kevin Dill.

2025 notes: The Lumberjacks rebounded from a slow start to earn three victories in a tough district and pick up a postseason win, but depth is a concern in 2025, according to veteran coach Morrison. RB Sanchez has all the tools to be a solid weapon on offense.

FAIRFIELD EAGLES (522)

Coach: John Bachtel. Lettermen R/L: 28/7. Starters returning: 7/8. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kohl Collins (6-3, 195, 4.7), WR Finn Smith (5-7, 155, 4.5), OL/DL John Henry Macke (6-2, 255, 5.0), OL/DL Brayden Thornburg (6-2,

255, 5.0), RB/LB Jason Brackens (6-0, 195, 4.8), WR/DB Kavion Hicks (6-4, 210, 4.7), OL Michael Zachry (6-5, 265, 5.3), WR Tylan Davis (6-0, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Will Zachry (6-2, 270, 5.1), RB/DL Darion Weatherall, WR/DB Connor Colvert, WR/DB Madden McElroy.

2025 notes: A two-deep playoff run might just have been the start of good things for the Eagles, who return one of the top pass/catch duos in the state and can pluck talent from a 10-win JV team. QB Collins lit up opposing defenses, and top WR target Finn is back for more.

HUNTINGTON RED DEVILS (521)

Coach: Brian Coffman. Lettermen R/L: 17/8. Starters returning: 8/10. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Brandt Kovar (6-0, 165, 4.9), WR/DB Matteo Markley (6-0, 160, 4.6), RB/LB Caydin Vanhowten (6-1, 225, 4.7), OL/DL Cade Forrest (6-0, 265, 5.1), WR/DB Brayden Kilgore (6-1, 160, 4.5), OL/DL, OL/DL Marshall Clifton (5-10, 210, 5.0), Elijah Shaffer (6-2, 220, 5.1), OL/DL Carson Forrest (5-10, 250, 5.4), TE/LB Wriley Lambert, WR/DB Jaydon Brown, WR/DB Carson Franklin, OL/LB Wyatt Loggins, TE/DL Jordan Walton, RB/DB Slade Holiday, TE/LB Taegan Farr, RB/DB Javier Palacios-Perez.

2025 notes: The Red Devils have struggled, but Coffman is encouraged heading into 2025 with tons of veteran leaders back on both sides of the ball. QB Kovar is a budding star, and WE/DB Markley is a two-way contributor.

PALESTINE WESTWOOD PANTHERS (404)

Coach: Richard Bishop. Lettermen R/L: 22/11. Starters returning: 7/5. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Kavian Bryant (6-2, 185, 4.5), WR Kaysn Dial (6-0, 185, 4.4), RB/DB David Russell (5-10, 190, 4.5), OL/DL Sean McCartney (6-2, 270, 5.1), WR Chris Carter (5-8, 160, 4.6), DL Preston Lacy (6-0, 240, 5.0), DL Landen Russell (6-1, 225, 4.9), DL Cam Beavers (6-1, 220, 4.9), LB Camdin Joslin, DB Sebastian Lathan, DB Qa'Shaun Shepard, DB/WR Trevi Hollis, DL Jaik Newby, WR/DB Kaden Bryant, RB Ja'Myrion Billups.

Parker, RB/LB Michael Walker.

2025 notes: New coach Day —previously of Elkhart — takes over. ATH Ellisor is a versatile threat. QB Rowe will trigger the offense. The defensive front should be the star of the show.

EAST CHAMBERS BUCCANEERS (466)

Coach: Russ Sutherland. Lettermen R/L: 21/14. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Koby Jones (6-0, 185), WR/DB Reid Todd (5-11, 160, 4.6), RB/DB Earius Ceasar (5-5, 135, 4.6), RB/DL Darius Edmonson (5-10, 205, 4.9), WR/DB Bryce Guillory (5-11, 150, 4.7), WR/DB Colby West (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Aiden Baker (5-11, 195, 4.9), OL Eloy Lopez (5-10, 225), DE Giovanni Gomez (5-7, 190), TE/DE Sean Beighley, WR/DB Luke Hampton, OL/DL Lane Jones, OL/DL Kullen Spencer, OL/DL Ty Ardoin, TE/DL Grady Oliver, WR/LB Tanner Salazar, OL/DL Jason Janak.

2025 notes: The Buccaneers have missed the playoffs just once in the past 30 seasons and Sutherland believes, after some struggles a year ago, ECHS is ready to contend for a district title.

HARDIN HORNETS (396)

Coach: Chad Taylor. Lettermen R/L: 24/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/10. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Trevor Jones (6-0, 220, 4.7), RB/LB Javion Watley (5-11, 195, 4.6), OL Brennan Nunan (6-4, 295), DB Lleyton Berry (5-11, 150, 4.5), OL/DL Kameron Holloway (6-0, 210, 4.9), OL/DL Luke Cade (6-1, 260), LB Jackson Ponton (6-0, 180, 4.8), TE Landon Leyton (6-2, 180, 4.8), QB/DB Kolton Bishop (5-11, 155, 4.5), QB Hunter Whitehead, DB Parker Buffington, RB/LB Drew Long, DB Kaden Stephens, TE/DE Cade Drake, OL/DL Caleb Drake.

2025 notes: The Hornets earned a playoff appearance in Taylor's second season and with nearly the entire team returning, Hardin has its eyes on contending for a district crown.

KIRBYVILLE WILDCATS (427)

Coach: Seth Hubbard. Lettermen R/L: 28/14. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

District 9-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kavian Bryant, Palestine Westwood

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jaden Cole, Teague

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Palestine Westwood
2. Fairfield
3. Diboll
4. Teague
5. Crockett
6. Huntington

2025 notes: It's hard to imagine an offense that averaged 58.3 points and topped 60 six times being better, but the Panthers just might accomplish that with the return of QB Bryant and WR Dial. Russell is also a standout on defense, breaking up 14 passes.

TEAGUE LIONS (435)

Coach: Zack Linscomb. Lettermen R/L: 22/10. Starters returning: 6/8. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jaden Cole (6-1, 235), RB/DL Ny'Land Coaster (5-9, 215), LB/QB Tripp Egbert (6-0, 200), OL/DL Jacob Matthews (6-3, 255), WR/DB Bryce Bates (5-8, 135), WR/DB Braden Gauntt (5-9, 165). Top juniors: OL/DL Lucky Jones (6-0, 225), RB/DL Mario Cuevas (5-11, 225) OL/DL Brison Parker (5-10, 230), OL/DL Eli Gilbert, FB/LB Braden Leija, TE/LB Landon Evans, DL Kayden Busby, WR/DB Coletton Smith, OL/DL Caiden Hullum, OL/DL Case Nichols, QB/DB Garrett Winkler.

2025 notes: Expect growing pains early since the Lions lost a three-year starter at QB, but the talent is there for another playoff run. Cole is a four-year starter who has recorded 100-plus tackles every season. Coaster has great balance and vision, and Egbert will contribute on offense this season.

Players to watch: WR/DB Cooper Murphy (6-0, 170, 4.8), LB TJ Allen (6-0, 235), OL/DL Braxton Jacks (6-4, 290), DE Landin Spears (5-10, 200), DE Caiden Jackson (6-0, 180), DB Izaiah Fennels (6-0, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Christian Lowe (6-1, 325), LB Ryder Ferguson (6-0, 180), WR/DB Trent Jackson, WR Elijah Johnson, RB/LB David Fussell.

2025 notes: Coach Hubbard enters his second year at Kirbyville with a veteran squad that returns eight starters on both sides of the ball.

ORANGEFIELD BOBCATS (541)

Coach: Jeff Breaux. Lettermen R/L: 16/17. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Mason Manning (5-9, 185, 4.5), LB Kaleb Menard (6-2, 205, 4.6), LB Carson Worthy (6-0, 180, 4.8), DL William Crosby (5-8, 195, 4.9), QB Carson Gonzales (6-4, 205, 4.9), S Ryan McAlpin (5-9, 175, 4.7), WR/S Rylan Agerton (5-10, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Cole Sanches (5-8, 160, 4.8), WR/DB Jaxon Agerton (5-10, 165, 4.9).

2025 notes: The pieces are in place for another strong campaign in Orangefield with the return of RB Manning and QB Gonzales.

District 10-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Mason Manning, Orangefield

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Koby Jones, East Chambers

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Orangefield
2. East Chambers
3. Hardin
4. Anahuac
5. Coldspring-Oakhurst
6. Kirbyville
7. Buna

ANAHUAC PANTHERS (476)

Coach: Greg Neece. Lettermen R/L: 20/18. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 6-4/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Oscar Garza (5-9, 175, 4.6), TE/LB Justin Netterville (6-0, 210, 4.8), TE/DL Brad Coates (6-2, 225, 4.8), RB Darius Richardson (6-2, 190, 4.6), WR/DB Tre Smith (6-1, 180, 4.7), LB Kaden Campbell (6-0, 210, 4.9), WR/DB MyQuiet Davis (6-1, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Adrian Torres (5-10, 215), RB/DB Jaytwan Dowdye (5-8, 155, 4.6), LB King Charles, OL/DL Zack Delacruz, OL Cole Willis, OL Kayden Billiot, DT Kyler Taylor, DE Porter Chenaunt, OL/DL Aiden King, QB Brayden Sutch.

2025 notes: Despite a winning record, the Panthers were left out of the playoff mix in a deep and balanced district. RB/DB Garza gets it done on both sides of the ball.

BUNA COUGARS (407)

Coach: Mike Trahan. Lettermen R/L: 18/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Cameron Branch (5-10, 150, 4.7), DB Koltan Stark (5-11, 175, 4.8), OL Cole Wilson (5-7, 270), QB Cole Midkiff (5-9, 170, 4.9), RB/LB Ashford McKinney (6-0, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Nate Davis (5-8, 255), RB Tanner Crane (5-4, 130, 4.7), WR Dean Helm (6-2, 160, 4.7), RB/LB Alex Soileau (5-11, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Braxton Stimits, RB/DB Brenner Duclon, RB/DB Brody Batman, RB/DL Colt Ashley, TE/DL Hunter Crane, OL Brayden Burks, WR/DB Kenan Fachorn, DL Tyce Hall.

2025 notes: The Cougars struggled in Trahan's first year at the helm, but improvement should come in 2025 with a veteran cast returning.

COLDSRING-OAKHURST TROJANS (500)

Coach: Cody Day. Lettermen R/L: 18/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Landon Ellisor (5-10, 160, 4.5), QB David Rowe (6-0, 180, 4.8), TE/DE Dacoryn Barnes (6-2, 210, 4.9), DL James Christian (6-0, 235, 4.9), OL Daylyn Knight (6-2, 285), TE/DE Quavi Marsh (6-2, 235), RB/DB Jakoby Parks (5-7, 155, 4.6), OK Josh Kahler, WR/DB Noah Bradford, RB/LB Jamarious

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ACADEMY BUMBLEBEES (541)

Coach: Ty Kuhn. Lettermen R/L: 27/3. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: LB/RB Carter Kuhn (5-10, 200, 4.7), WR/DB Josh Mann (6-1, 170, 4.4), WR/DB Jayvion White (5-7, 150, 4.4), WR/DB Vincent Williams (5-11, 175, 4.4), QB Tyler Hoffman (5-10, 160, 4.4), WR/DB Breyden Hoffman, QB/DB Brody Allen, OL/DL Deuce Nabours, K Rylander Eidson, WR/DB Tyler Robinson, LB/DE Elijah Lavan, QB/DB Preston Rowe, LB Charlie Butler, OL/DL Jacob Chaffin, OL/DL Landon Stewart, RB/LB Brian Grissom.

2025 notes: Not every first-year coach inherits 27 returning lettermen, but Ty Kuhn has that advantage. Expect Lampasas transfer LB Kuhn to make an impact at the 3A level. QB/DB Tyler Hoffman (1,000 yards passing, 500 yards rushing) impressed as a sophomore.

CAMERON YOE YOEMEN (475)

Coach: Aaron Babino. Lettermen R/L: 9/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Enrique Luna (6-0, 320, 5.2), DL Mykel Keith (6-1, 235, 4.9), RB/DL De'Marques Lopez-Pinchback (5-9, 210, 4.8), WR/LB Brody Aguirre (6-0, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Tra'von Myles (5-11, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Shawn Leifeste (6-1, 210, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Lukas Stifflemire, RB/LB Andrew Castillo, QB/DB Jacob Scott.

2025 notes: Cameron Yoe aims to bounce back from consecutive three-win seasons and second-year coach Babino is optimistic. The Yoemen will have a new QB after Cade Hubnik's graduation, with Scott a potential leader. He'll be supported by RB/DL Lopez-Pinchback and WR/DB Myles. Advancing past bi-district for the first time since 2022 won't be easy, as the district toughens.

FRANKLIN LIONS (429)

Coach: Mark Fannin. Lettermen R/L: 23/19. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 10-3 regional finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB RJ Fulton (5-11, 185, 4.6), OL Logan Kilcrease (5-10, 205, 5.0), QB Walker Anderson (5-10, 180, 4.5), TE AJ Phillips (6-5, 230,

5.0). Top juniors: OL/DL Jackson Hutchinson (5-10, 190, 4.9), DB Ryan Smitherman (5-10, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL/DL Ryder Klein (6-4, 270, 5.2).

Other prospects: LB Bubba Jackson, DL Camden Neel, OL Parker Januse, OL Jace Johnson, RB/DB Sawyer Januse.

2025 notes: Franklin continues to uphold its winning tradition despite losing standout talent. The Lions expect another strong campaign, leaning on a disciplined, hard-nosed approach that has defined the program. RB/LB RJ Fulton brings leadership on both sides, while QB Anderson looks poised to take over the offense. With sights set on a second straight district title — and fifth in six years — Franklin remains a top contender.

McGREGOR BULLDOGS (424)

Coach: Quentin White. Lettermen R/L: 6/14. Starters returning O/D: 3/8. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Bubba Zacharias (6-2, 178, 4.7), WR Dom Madron (5-11, 176, 4.6), LB Bryan Suarez (5-7, 205, 4.8), OL Yeimert Ugarte (6-0, 265, 5.3).

2025 notes: McGregor returns a few starters on offense but sees improvement ahead. QB Zacharias leads the offense as a dual-threat, with WR Madron as his top target. The Bulldogs had one win last year but aim to take a step forward in Year 2 under coach Quentin White.

ROCKDALE TIGERS (466)

Coach: Hunter Hamrick. Lettermen R/L: 19/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 3-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR De'Andre Stephens (5-11, 160, 4.5), LB Wilmer Sorto (5-10, 185, 4.9), RB Jeremiah Butler (5-11, 180, 4.7), DB Brody Willard (5-9, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: QB Greyson Williams (5-10, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Bryson Duncan (5-10, 240, 5.3), DB/WR Rachaid Wilson (5-11, 180, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR Jonathan Fuller (6-2, 170, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL/DL Michael Carver, WR Alex Cooper, DB/WR Eduardo Rivera, DB James Bartsch, LB Luke Olivares.

2025 notes: Rockdale is optimistic with a

Williams (629 yards rushing). Hallettsville would like to throw the ball downfield to Amsden more often. Coach Montgomery expects to see improvement on defense with the return of LB Matthew Montgomery (117 tackles) and DB Edmonds (84 tackles).

HEMPSTEAD BOBCATS (448)

Coach: Damian Judge. Lettermen R/L: 10/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 0-10/0-4.

Players to watch: RB/LB Dwayne Crawford (5-9, 170, 4.9), WR/DB Jamarion Mickle (6-2, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Avis Walton (5-9, 155), RB/LB J'Leon Watts (5-10, 180), RB/LB Ben Mayes (5-10, 205), WR/DB Dylan Garfield (5-7, 160), WR/DB Keenan Wilson (5-7, 160, 4.5), RB/LB Marzion Boulds (5-10, 200, 4.8).

2025 notes: Coach Judge begins his first season with a new field and a new track. The Bobcats were outscored 209-17 in district play. The skill should be there at RB and WR. The key to finding the elusive district win will be finding a QB and making vast improvements on the OL and DL.

HITCHCOCK BULLDOGS (526)

Coach: Craig Smith. Lettermen R/L: 23/24. Starters returning O/D: 4/9. 2024: 10-2 region semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: DB Brian Harris (5-9, 170, 4.4), DT Demarcus Blackmon (6-2, 290, 5.3), DB Averett Lacy (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL RJ Williams (5-11, 220, 5.2), OL Jamari Cooper (5-11, 240, 5.1), DL Jaydin Freeman (6-0, 220, 4.9). Top juniors: QB Jordan Shannon (6-1, 175, 4.8), TE De'Aaron Moorehead (6-0, 220, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/LB Cam'ron Taylor (5-9, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: DE Carleil Beard, OL John Hines, DB Treven Landry, DL/RB Jamarion Cooper, DL Corey Hardy, OL Peyton Bird, DB Lakeith Tyler, LB Eli Walker.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs defeated eventual state champion Columbus and showed signs of being a contender until injuries took their toll. Hitchcock must replace three Division I starters, but have most of their starters back and good speed on defense. The defense will be led by DBs Harris (5 INTs, 3 TDs) and Lacy, a two-

District 11-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB RJ Fulton, Franklin

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Carter Kuhn, Academy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Franklin
2. Troy
3. Little River Academy
4. Cameron Yoe
5. McGregor
6. Rockdale

solid core of returning skill players, including leading rusher RB Butler and passer QB Williams. These returning starters will help the Tigers remain competitive, despite concerns over the development of their D-line and secondary.

TROY TROJANS (496)

Coach: Tommy Brashear. Lettermen R/L: 16/22. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Johnavon Dees (6-4, 305, 5.4), RB/LB Jayden Lucky (5-9, 175, 4.7), DL/DL Tedrice Calhoun (6-0, 257, 5.1), WR/DB Cohen Ketcham (5-9, 155, 4.6). Top juniors: DB/RB Lincoln Jezek (6-0, 163, 4.7), LB/RB Ryder Sommer (5-10, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB/LB Owen Smith (6-0, 168, 4.9).

Other prospects: LB/RB Grayson Bogausch, DL/TE Tomas Lopez-Rodriguez, OL/DL Daniel Witcher, OL/DL George Dalton.

2025 notes: Troy faces a challenge in matching last year's nine-win season, which surpassed its previous three years combined. However, the Trojans return key pieces, particularly along the offensive and defensive lines. A new QB will take over, but RB/LB Lucky provides a reliable focal point for the offense.

year starter. The biggest challenge will be filling skill positions. But the transition will be made easier with Williams, a two-year starter, and Cooper on the OL.

YOAKUM BULLDOGS (484)

Coach: Bo Robinson. Lettermen R/L: 25/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2025: 8-5 region semifinalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: WR X'Zavier Barnett (6-3, 195, 4.5), OL Oliver Ortiz (6-2, 290), OL Jayden Jones (6-4, 320), WR/DB Jace Morales (5-11, 180, 4.5), DB Cayson Gamez (5-8, 160, 4.6), LB Colby Jendrzey (5-8, 190). Top juniors: WR Kennon Dilworth (5-8, 150, 4.4), DL Luis Massey (6-2, 290). DB Elyjai Barnett (5-10, 185).

Other prospects: OL/DL Kannin Jacobs, LB Bradley Jacob, DB Brenton Jacob, DB Tayten Crawford, OL Joey Rodriguez, OL Bradley Shimek, LB Isaiah Lopez, TE Elyas Garza.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs have the talent and experience to challenge for a district title. There is speed at the skill positions with WRs Barnett, a Power Four commit, Morales and Dilworth, and DB Gamez. The OL has size and talent led by Ortiz, an all-state player, and Jones. The defense should improve. The Bulldogs must find a QB to navigate a competitive schedule.

District 12-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Braylon Fisher, Columbus

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Keyon Hemphill-Woods, Columbus

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Columbus
2. Hitchcock
3. Yoakum
4. Hallettsville
5. Hempstead

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

FLORENCE BUFFALOES (370)

Coach: Robert Draper. Lettermen R/L: 11/15. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Adam Heffington (6-1, 255, 4.9), RB/LB Mariano Palacios (5-9, 165, 4.8), RB/DB Kaden Moss (5-10, 145, 4.8), OL/LB Noe Rios (5-9, 180, 5.0), QB/DB Eduardo Rios-Reyes (5-9, 145, 4.9), RB/LB Miguel Martinez, OL/DL Leo Perez, OL/DL Chris Garcia-Chamorro.

2025 notes: Depth is a concern with several key players competing on both sides. DL/OL Heffington (25 tackles, 3 sacks) will fill in the gaps on the offensive line as a two-way starter. RB/LB Palacios (402 yards rushing; 45 tackles) is a second-year two-way starter. QB/DB Rios-Reyes (33 tackles) is expected to be the starting signal-caller.

INGRAM MOORE WARRIORS (422)

Coach: Tate DeMasco. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Bowden Zipp (5-10, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Chris Alva (5-9, 265, 5.0), QB Logan Spalding (6-2, 175, 4.8), RB/DB Will Symm (6-2, 180, 4.7), DL Cohen Keith (6-0, 215, 4.7), LB Keithan Garcia (5-8, 175, 4.7), WR Caleb Ward (5-8, 155, 4.5), DB Victor Corral (5-8, 150, 4.7), RB/DB Keaton Burroughs (5-9, 165, 4.6), TE/OL Collin Nesbit, WR/DB Hunter Cobb, TE/DL Luey Carrillo, WR/DB Cady Reed, DL Zach Harder, OL Levi Muskievicz, LB/RB Caleb Martinez, K Christian Carranza.

2025 notes: QB Spalding (1,234 yards, 14 TDs passing) will be the guy to get them the ball. WR/DB Zipp (218 yards, 2 TDs receiving; 85 tackles, 2 INTs) is a fourth-year starter and team leader. Alva is anchored on both sides of the line. DB Symm (45 tackles, 1 INTs) is also a fourth-year starter, as is LB Garcia (73 tackles).

LLANO YELLOW JACKETS (524)

Coach: Matt Green. Lettermen R/L: 21/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Luke Davis (5-9, 150, 4.7), TE Konrad Zwicke (6-2, 245), DL/TE Cole Kennedy

(6-2, 230), OL Cason Stephenson (6-2, 240), DB/WR J.D. Friday (5-11, 175), WR Cash Lynch (5-11, 165), WR Graham Prokop, DB/WR Austin Humphries, RB/LB Cody Greenwood, LB/RB Jose Sillas, RB Brayton Shaw, OL Zach Driskel, OL James Greenwood.

2025 notes: A season after going 5-5, the Yellow Jackets made another deep playoff run, qualifying to at least the state quarterfinals for the third time in five seasons. They are set for another successful season with the return of QB Davis (2,095 yards, 27 TDs passing; 662 yards, 6 TDs rushing), a seasoned junior, who has 19 varsity starts under his belt. TE Zwicke (215 yards, 2 TDs) is a strong blocker and can make yards after the catch. DL Kennedy (49 tackles, 4 sacks) DB Friday (51 tackles, 4 INTs) and DB Hays (151 tackles, 2 INTs) set the tone on defense.

LULING EAGLES (411)

Coach: Jeremiah Granado. Lettermen R/L: 24/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: DB/WR Braecyn Spencer (5-9, 140, 4.7), OL Zamarian Cruz (6-3, 350), QB/LB Gary Cantu (6-0, 210, 4.8), OL/DL Jose Almanza (5-9, 250, 5.0), OL Kaden Tristan (6-2, 280), DB David Cruz.

2025 notes: QB/LB Cantu returns as the team's leading passer and is a valuable player on defense, too, as is DB/WR Spencer (19 tackles, 4 TDs), who also broke up 13 passes. OL Cruz is strong and OL/DL Almanza (22 tackles, 4 sacks) piled solid statistics on defense in six games.

MARION BULLDOGS (490)

Coach: Joel Call. Lettermen R/L: 36/17. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Kade Pape (6-2, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Schultze Cayden (6-1, 190), WR/DB Jack Wells (6-4, 195, 4.4), WR/LB Jaiden Riley (6-4, 215, 4.6), LB Kyle Zamora (5-10, 210), RB Tanner Otis (5-10, 185, 4.4), WR/DB Hayden Balser (5-10, 165, 4.6), LB/TE Reide Reinenger (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Eli Parker (5-11, 170, 4.6), DL/TE Ian Nevarez, OL Trent Larson, DB Josh Aguilar.

2025 notes: Call takes over for Ryne Miller, who

4.6), DL Alexander Biaza (6-0, 240, 5.3), DB Troy Fulmer, DL/OL Miguel Gallegos, LB Colton Parish, LB Reagan Baker.

2025 notes: A district championship four-peat relies on the Indians' ability to find an effective starting quarterback. Nevertheless, Jourdanton has some solid offensive options with RB Schorsch, WR Conway and WR Andrus, who gained some valuable experience as a freshman. DB Roach is a third-year starter who will get some snaps at receiver.

LYTLE PIRATES (502)

Coach: Mike Trevino. Lettermen R/L: 23/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Toby Davila (5-9, 170, 4.6), WR/DB Chase Guevara (5-9, 135, 4.6), OL/DL Devin Cordova (6-1, 225, 5.1), QB/WR/DB Weston Jackson (5-8, 145, 4.7), RB/WR/DB Angel De La Rosa (5-10, 155, 4.6), TE/LB Ethan Elizondo (5-10, 160, 4.9), QB/WR/DB Matthew Wimer, RB/DB Travis Norton, RB/LB Jonathan Massiate, DL Princeton Menchaca, RB/LB Damien Barco, DL/RB Thomas Rubal, OL/DL Gilbert Soto, OL Isaiah Leven, RB/LB Jayden Motes.

2025 notes: Coach Trevino is counting on the leadership of a strong senior class to lead the Pirates back to the playoffs after they missed them last season. The Pirates could take some early lumps with a challenging non-district schedule, but Trevino believes that will prepare the team for district. QB Davila leads the offense. WR/DB Guevara is a playmaker on both sides of the ball.

POTEET AGGIES (492)

Coach: Rudy Valerio. Lettermen R/L: 25/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: DL Kepuha Garcia (5-10, 270, 5.1), LB Alex Chimalhua (6-0, 185, 4.8), QB Jonah Martinez (5-9, 155, 4.7), OL Nayson Alaniz (5-10, 235, 5.2), OL Nathan Krempin (6-1, 250, 5.3), DL Ty Fernando Hernandez (6-0, 185, 4.8), OL Prince Rios (5-10, 245, 5.5), DB Michael Uribe (5-9, 145, 4.9), OL Ty Valerio (6-4, 270), RB Cameron Lockamy, TE Luis Garcia, DB Gabriel Herrera, DB Willie Mendez, WR Kaden Hammonds.

2025 notes: The Aggies are set on the offensive

District 13-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Luke Davis, Llano

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Wes Harris, Universal City Randolph

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Llano | 5. Luling |
| 2. Marion | 6. Florence |
| 3. Univ. City Randolph | |
| 4. Ingram Moore | |

coached the Bulldogs for seven seasons. Call comes from Judson, where he served as the offensive coordinator. He served as interim head coach for three games in 2021. He takes over a team that pulled off one of most stunning upsets in 2024 with a 46-14 victory against Jourdanton. QB Pape (1,856 yards, 18 TDs passing; 378 yards, 6 TDs rushing) brings valuable experience. DL/OL Cayden (51 tackles, 7 TFL, 2 sacks) leads the defense.

RANDOLPH RO-HAWKS (474)

Coach: Elliott Ortiz. Lettermen R/L 16/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Cody Howard (5-7, 165, 4.5), OL/DL Wes Harris (6-4, 315, 4.9), TE/LB Finnegan Woodruff (6-3, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: Graduation took a heavy toll on the Ro-Hawks after back-to-back 10-win seasons. The Ro-Hawks will rely on veterans like DB/RB Cody Howard (786 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 506 yards 5 TDs receiving), OL/DL Harris (107 tackles, 18 TFL, 5 sacks), a first-team all-district selection on both sides of the line, and LB Woodruff (151 tackles, 4 sacks, 14 TFL) to lead the way.

CRYSTAL CITY JAVELINAS (521)

Coach: Desmon Battle. Lettermen R/L: 27/14. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Christopher Mena (6-0, 150, 4.5), RB/DB Eric Garcia (5-10, 170, 4.5), RB/DB Adrain Zavala (5-8, 150, 4.5), LB/RB Nick Flores (5-8, 170, 4.8), DL/TE Isaiah Mata (6-0, 175, 4.8), DL/OL Joseph Avila (6-1, 290, 4.9), DL/RB Eli Hernandez (5-10, 150, 4.5), DL/WR Bobby Castillo (6-0, 150, 4.8), DL Carlos Perez (5-10, 190, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Javelinas' experience should put them in contention to win their first district championship since 1953. Their success starts with QB Mena, the team's leader on and off the field. RBs Garcia and RB Zavala are great assets on offense. LB Flores (89 tackles) is the defensive leader. DL Mata brings athleticism on the line.

HONDO OWLS (517)

Coach: Dustin Templin. Lettermen R/L: 18/18. Starters returning O/D: 10/9. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/WR/LB Mason Barr (5-8, 160, 4.8), OL/DL T.J. Stanukinos (6-4, 275, 5.0), OL/DL Rudy Alvarado (6-1, 250, 5.3), QB/DB Koltan Alvarez (5-10, 165, 4.7), DL Mason Martinez (5-8, 225, 5.0), TE/RB/LB Colton Wiemers (6-1, 215, 4.9), DL Lyston Blanks (6-1, 200, 5.0), WR/DB Layton Pope (5-6, 135, 4.6), RB/LB Joby Pimentel.

2025 notes: The Owls gained experience through necessity in 2024 after a rash of injuries forced younger players to step into starting roles. Hondo didn't lose a beat as it qualified for the playoffs. After missing most of 2024, the versatile Barr is a fourth-year starter. QB Alvarez assumes the full-time duties after playing part-time in 2024.

JOURDANTON INDIANS (459)

Coach: Darrell Andrus. Lettermen R/L: 33/17. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Kye Schorsch (5-7, 185, 4.6), WR Cash Conway (6-0, 185, 4.6), DL Josiah Zuniga (6-2, 215, 5.1), WR/RB Shane Andrus (6-0, 200, 4.8), DB Peyton Roach (6-1, 165, 4.6), DL Kincade Valenzuela (6-1, 200, 5.1), RB Aidan Guzman (5-9, 185, 4.6), DB Kiro Martinez (5-11, 160,

District 14-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kye Schorsch, Jourdanton

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Nick Flores, Crystal City

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. Crystal City | 5. Lytle |
| 2. Jourdanton | 6. Poteet |
| 3. Hondo | |
| 4. San Antonio Cole | |

DC
TX

David Campbell
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ARANSAS PASS PANTHERS (449)

Coach: Richard Davis. Lettermen R/L: 34/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Jerry Longoria (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL/DE Juan Gutierrez (6-1, 250, 5.5), RB Ricky Hamilton (5-10, 195, 4.8), WR/DB Marlon Gutierrez (5-11, 155, 4.9), DB Jesus Rosales (5-8, 145, 4.8), OL/DL Aiden Ploch (5-10, 210, 5.0). Top sophomore: WR/DB Cameron Ploch (5-8, 130, 4.7).

2025 notes: Davis takes over a Panthers team in the midst of a six-year playoff drought, but they have promise and hope with a young returning core. That hope begins with QB Longoria (1,463 yards, 10 TDs passing), who has two years of experience, and explosive RB Hamilton (671 yards, 6 TDs). The first-year coach said the OL will be improved, led by OL/DE Gutierrez, who also anchors the defensive front. The team hopes more physicality will result in wins.

EDNA COWBOYS (436)

Coach: Jamie Dixon. Lettermen R/L: 26/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 14-1 state semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Hunter Buehring (6-1, 188, 4.8), WR/DB Keegan Hicks (5-9, 155, 4.5), QB/DB Trevor Floyd (6-1, 195, 4.7), OL Cornell Norman (6-2, 285, 5.1), WR/DB Keith Wilkins (5-10, 142, 4.6), RB Maverick Robertson (5-10, 177, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Zaedon Dillworth (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Maurice Tilmon (5-8, 171, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jayfus Smith (5-8, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: LB Angel Olivares, LB Phoenix Robertson, OL Thornton Barton, RB Ryland Slusher, DL Marquise Tillmon, K Jaime Gaytan.

2025 notes: Dixon arrives after a stint at Blanco and a history of playoff success, taking over a team that was two wins from a state title. The Cowboys will be breaking in a new QB and Floyd will get a look. RB/DE Buehring (82 tackles, 11 sacks), the district defensive MVP, will make an impact on both sides of the ball. With tradition and high expectations, the Cowboys will be in the mix for the region again.

GOLIAD TIGERS (431)

Coach: Kevin Salazar. Lettermen R/L: 22/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/WR/DB Lamont Franklin (5-11, 170, 4.4), RB/DB Donovan Perry (5-10, 198, 4.7), OL/DL D'Adrian Anderson (6-3, 300, 4.8), QB/DB Cord Zamzow (6-2, 160, 4.4), OL/DL Keantry Garner (6-0, 310, 5.3), RB/LB Tyler Flores (6-0, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: RB/DB Cy Henke (5-11, 180), OL/DE Jayden Valdez (5-10, 200). Top sophomore: WR/DB Dasean Avery (5-9, 150).

Other prospects: LB Landon Psencik, RB/DB Trey Rojas, RB/LB Josh Valdez, OL/DL Immanuel Espindola, OL/DL Connor Castillo, LB Carter Duggan, RB/LB Tristan Winstead, WR/DB Kayden Caka.

2025 notes: Behind the stellar 1-2 punch of RB/WR/DB Franklin (1,205 yards, 18 TDs rushing;

712 yards, 12 touchdowns receiving) and RB/DB Perry (1,027 yards, 10 TDs rushing), the Tigers again expect to be a contender for the district and regional crown. Team speed will be strong again. RB/LB Flores (76 tackles, 4 sacks) will be a difference-maker on a defense that needs to find new edge players.

LONDON PIRATES (540)

Coach: Andy Smith. Lettermen R/L: 18/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/2. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Alexander Manning (6-2, 180), WR/DB Aiden Salinas, WR Connor LeBlau, QB/WR/DB AJ Gutierrez, ATH Zack Tyrone. Top juniors: OL/DL Brody Williamson.

2025 notes: Smith comes from Alpine as the second football coach in program history. The Pirates have a strong 1-2 punch in QB Manning (2,324 yards, 22 TDs passing; 423 yards, 7 TDs rushing) and WR/DB Salinas (937 yards, 11 TDs receiving). The team will need to find someone to step up on defense where most of the starters graduated. OL/DL Williamson leads the team up front as the Pirates try to keep their 11-year streak of making the playoffs.

MATHIS PIRATES (406)

Coach: Rodney Acosta. Lettermen R/L: 16/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 4-6/1-6 district.

Players to watch: ATH Rojelio Montemayor (5-9, 150, 4.7), QB/RB EJ Montemayor (6-0, 190), RB/LB Aaron Acosta (5-9, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Samuel Skipper (5-9, 160, 4.6), OL/LB Darion Villarreal (5-9, 180), TE/DE Duke Bernal (5-8, 170).

Other prospects: RB/LB Jody Rios, RB/LB Exzavier Ybarra, RB/LB Robert Ovalle.

2025 notes: The Pirates go into Year 2 with Acosta at the helm and the majority of their offensive starters returning with a year of experience in the scheme. ATH Rojelio Montemayor made a splash as a freshman and is again counted on in multiple spots. QB/RB E.J. Montemayor is back after leading the team in passing and rushing. RB Acosta adds to the punch on offense as the team expects to be even more physical.

ORANGE GROVE BULLDOGS (517)

Coach: Jared Johnston. Lettermen R/L: 31/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Linden Rodriguez (6-1, 185, 4.8), OL/DL James Bahn (5-10, 240, 5.0), OL Landon Del Alamo (6-3, 308), OL Mason Castillo (6-3, 298), RB/LB Daniel Bahn (5-7, 150, 4.6), WR/DB Diego Serna (5-10, 160, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Orlando Carrillo (5-6, 140, 4.8), WR/DB Daniel Martinez (5-7, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: QB/DB Hughes Klatt (5-9, 145, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Brady Jenkins, DE Rickey Lauer, OL Nikolas Mendoza, DB Lindon Lytle, DE/K Felix Bussey, OL Steven Villatoro, WR/DB Chris Martinez, TE Matt Vargas.

2025 notes: Despite losing their starting QB to injury, the Bulldogs stayed the course and made

District 15-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB/WR Lamont Franklin, Goliad

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Hunter Buehring, Edna

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Edna | 5. Palacios |
| 2. Goliad | 6. Mathis |
| 3. Orange Grove | 7. Aransas Pass |
| 4. CC London | 8. CC West Oso |

the playoffs. QB/LB Rodriguez (801 yards, 6 TDs passing, 562 yards, 13 TDs rushing) is back after finishing the year. He'll be aided by the return of four starting linemen, including OL/DL Bahn, OL Del Alamo and OL Castillo. RB/LB Bahn turned heads as a freshman (493 yards, 9 TDs rushing). The Bulldogs are again in position to make the playoffs in a stout district.

PALACIOS SHARKS (381)

Coach: Travis Hoffer. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Ben Jimenez, TE Alex Weaver, LB Emilio Martinez, DL Channing Harvey, DB Trey Weixelman.

2025 notes: Hoffer takes over the Sharks program after a decade as an assistant at Needville. He assumes control of a program looking for its first postseason berth — and winning season — since 2020. DB Weixelman saw action as a freshman last season and TE Weaver is the top returning target in the passing attack. Palacios will operate out of the spread and utilize an odd-man front. Hoffer expects to contend for a playoff spot — they'll be in the mix, with a couple of critical district games deciding the Sharks' fate.

WEST OSO BEARS (537)

Coach: Kenneth Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 13/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: LB Trajhaun Vurns (6-0, 198, 4.8), QB/WR/DB Ryan Guerrero (5-9, 153, 4.6), LB Esrae Resendez (5-9, 180), WR/DE Matthew Guerrero (5-9, 204), QB/DB Julio Acosta (5-9, 150), DL Chase Richardson (5-10, 250). Top juniors: OL Manuel Alvarez, WR Noah Ramirez (5-8, 160). Top sophomore: WR/DB Braeden Cisneros.

Other prospects: OL Aaron Canseco, DB Teontae Simmons, OL Olatunji Lindsey.

2025 notes: Going into his third year leading the Bears, Johnson feels like the culture is changing after the team garnered important experience. Nine freshmen started a game at some point last season. LB Vurns (123 tackles) is one of the best in the Coastal Bend. WR/DE Guerrero (6 sacks) is also a threat for a defense with experience. With continued buy-in and reinforcements from the junior high, the team should be improved.



Bubba ZACHARIAS
QB
McGregor



Braylon FISHER
WR/DB
Columbus



Brian HARRIS
DB
Hitchcock



Braecyn SPENCER
DB/WR
Luling



Kade PAPE
QB
Marion



Cody HOWARD
RB/DB
Universal City
Randolph



Mason BARR
RB/WR/LB
Hondo

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BISHOP BADGERS (524.5)

Coach: David McHugh. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Aidan Andalon (5-8, 175), LB Nate Jasso (5-10, 180), OL Jai Cardenas (6-2, 265), QB Braxten Montalvo (6-2, 215), DE/TE David Contreras (6-0, 205), WR/DB Matt Reyna (6-0, 160), LB Daniel Bautista (5-9, 180), LB Omar Reyes, OL/DL Ian Tamez, WR/DB Jesus Sandoval, DL Xavier Garcia, LB Gio Portillo, DB Jordan Hudson, OL/DL Bryson Gaddis.

2025 notes: New coach McHugh, in from his OC spot at Ingleside, takes over. QB Montalvo (1,945 yards, 18 TDs passing) had a solid sophomore year under center and will be asked to do more with WR/DB Andalon (25-293 yards, 2 TDs receiving) and WR/DB Reyna (15-391 yards, 3 TDs receiving) outside. LB Jasso and OL Cardenas provide toughness and experience on both sides of the ball.

FALFURRIAS JERSEYS (386)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/3. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/WR Derek Vasquez (5-10, 170, 4.6), OL/LB Nicholas Trevino (5-11, 190, 4.9), RB/DE Andre Cisneros (5-11, 205, 4.9), WR Kaleb Garcia (6-1, 175, 4.7), DL Dominik Salinas (6-0, 223, 5.2), OL Roman Aluizo (6-3, 272, 5.6), OL Jordan Zuniga (5-10, 188, 5.5), RB/DL Elmer Smith (5-5, 192, 5.4), OL Samuel Benavidez, OL Kibby Garcia, LB/DB Cova Martinez, LB David Trevino, OL Damian Trevino.

2025 notes: Falfurrias will look to work its way back into the postseason and has an experienced offense leading the charge. QB/WR Vasquez (31-421 yards, 10 TDs receiving) takes over behind center and WR Garcia (29-404 yards, 2 TDs receiving) will be his go-to guy in the passing game. The Jerseys are strongest up front offensively, and RB/DE Cisneros (281 yards, 3 TDs rushing; 62 tackles) will be leaned upon heavily as a two-way contributor.

LYFORD BULLDOGS (470)

Coach: Jerry Jauregui. Lettermen R/L: 15/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Aiden Rubalcaba (5-6, 170, 4.9), WR/DB Austin Chavez (5-9, 160, 4.8), OL/LB Jake Vela (5-10, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Joshua Casarez (5-8, 150, 4.7), TE/DL Gael Silva (6-2, 210, 4.9), WR/LB Jaylon Klostermann (6-1, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Javier Gonzalez (6-1, 220, 5.0), RB/DB Justin Reyna (5-7, 150, 4.7), WR/DB John Reyna (5-8, 150, 4.8), WR/DB Nick Torres, OL/DL Caleb Mueller, OL/LB Samuel Palafox, OL/DL Gerald Cantu, RB/LB Raul Hinojosa, WR/DB Riley Reyna, QB/LB Andrew Garza.

2025 notes: Lyford has been a model of consistency with 11 consecutive playoff appearances. The Bulldogs will have to fight to make it 12. OL/LB Rubalcaba (72 tackles), OL/LB Vela and TE/DL Silva provide physicality on both sides,

while WR/DB Chavez, WR/DB Casarez and WR/LB Klostermann (38 tackles) are used as athletes all over the field. Lyford has what it takes to contend for their first district title since 2017.

PROGRESO RED ANTS (474)

Coach: Raul Rivera. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 11/11. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: OL Julius Montalvo (5-10, 285), QB Samuel Hernandez (5-11, 150), DL Emilio Reyna (6-1, 165), FB Isael Trevino (5-11, 225), K Issac Marquez (5-8, 140), FB Jason Valero (5-8, 220), OL Armando Valdez (5-10, 295), WR Ramon Gamboa (5-10, 165).

2025 notes: Progreso ended a 35-game losing streak last season. Now, the Red Ants are aiming to re-enter the win column while playing in a deep district. Progreso runs the spread as QB Hernandez operates through the air with FBs Trevino and Valero handling touches in the running game. WR Gamboa should also see plenty of targets coming his way. They'll have to rebuild in the trenches this season with OL Montalvo leading the charge.

RAYMONDVILLE BEARKATS (516)

Coach: William Littleton. Lettermen R/L: 20/17. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Jaden Mendez (5-10, 215, 4.8), OL Randi Pedraza (5-8, 240, 4.9), OL JJ Orozco (6-3, 280, 5.0), OL Jacob Cruz (6-1, 250, 5.0), QB Jeffrey LeFevre (6-1, 155, 4.8), RB Traeshawn Washington (5-8, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: Raymondville returns senior leadership and experience up front in OL Pedraza, OL Orozco and OL Cruz. The Bearkats will move to a multiple offense as RB Mendez (573 yards, 4 TDs rushing) and RB Washington spearhead the rushing attack, while sophomore QB LeFevre starts his first year behind center. New HC Littleton successfully turned things around at PSJA Memorial and will look to lead the Bearkats back into the postseason after a one-year absence.

RIO HONDO BOBCATS (475)

Coach: Rocky James. Lettermen R/L: 17/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Matthew Lopez, WR Manny Perez, RB Mario Lopez, DL Noe Leos, WR/DB Joel Medina, LB Rolando Pastrana, LB Miguel Padron, DL Miguel Lopez, WR Michael Lopez, WR Albert Villalobos, WR Sebastian Gonzalez, WR/DE Mathew Perez.

2025 notes: The Bobcats have won two district titles in three years but will have to retool to make a run at another in 2025. Rio Hondo will lean on playmakers RB Lopez (1,131 yards, 23 TDs rushing) and WR Perez (38-591 yards, 6 TDs receiving) as QB Lopez (217 yards, 4 TDs passing) takes the reins of the spread offense. DL Leos, LB Pastrana, LB Padron and WR/DB Medina are the leading returners defensively.

District 16-3A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Braxten Montalvo, Bishop

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Marcel Molina, San Diego

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. San Diego | 5. Raymondville |
| 2. Bishop | 6. Santa Gertrudis Acad. |
| 3. Rio Hondo | 7. Falfurrias |
| 4. Lyford | 8. Progreso |

SAN DIEGO VAQUEROS (455)

Coach: Matthew Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 24/14. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Marcel Molina (6-0, 250, 5.2), RB/LB Nick Luera (5-10, 180, 4.8), RB/LB Frank Soliz (5-8, 185, 4.7), ATH Ronnie White (5-10, 170, 4.7), DL Davin Gonzalez (6-1, 300, 5.5), ATH Marqus Gutierrez (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Eugene Soliz (6-0, 230, 5.1), LB/DL Jared Rodriguez (6-0, 205, 4.8), TE/DL Devyn Maldonado (6-0, 225, 4.8), DL Derek Barrera, ATH Jake Salinas, WR/DB Rogelio Fernandez, LB Aiden Cadena, WR/DB AJ Biscarro, OL Elias Torres, LB Austin Salaiz, OL Ricky Garcia.

2025 notes: Garcia enters Year 1 at San Diego and will look to uphold a streak of eight playoff appearances and three district championships. The Vaqueros will have a new QB, but size in the trenches and two dynamic weapons in RB/LB Luera (1,623 yards, 20 TDs rushing) and ATH White (40-831 yards, 10 TDs receiving) will ease the transition. RB/LB Soliz (105 tackles, 5 sacks) and DL Gonzalez will spearhead the Vaqueros defensively.

SANTA GERTRUDIS ACADEMY PRIDE (383)

Coach: Frank Galvan. Lettermen R/L: 16/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-7/1-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jacob Moya (5-9, 165, 4.7), DL Estevan Escobedo (5-9, 170, 4.8), RB Papo Aguilar (5-7, 140, 4.9), RB Elijah Riojas (5-8, 200, 4.9), LB Karlos Diaz (5-9, 170, 4.9), DL Derek Garcia (5-9, 250, 5.2), QB Sam Trevino (5-9, 140, 4.9), DL Taw Braden (5-9, 150, 5.0), LB Jordan Marquez (5-7, 190, 5.0), OL Mingo Rodriguez, RB Percy Davis, WR Ian Duran, DB Paulo Sanchez, OL Javi Solis, RB Sam Garza.

2025 notes: The Lions return the majority of their starters with eight back on both sides of the ball. QB/DB Moya (5 INTs), RB Riojas (1,110 yards, 7 TDs rushing) and RB Aguilar are the focal point of a triple-option offense that causes headaches for defenses. The Lions are strongest defensively with fast and furious play from DL Escobedo (100 tackles) and DL Garcia (51 tackles, 7 sacks) with LB Diaz cleaning up behind them.



Jaden MENDEZ
Raymondville running back

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CANADIAN WILDCATS (293)

Coach: Andy Cavalier. Letterman R/L: 23/10. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 10-4 regional finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Riggs Pennington (6-6, 195, 4.8), WR/DB Ezequiel Cervantes (5-6, 165, 4.6), RB/DB Slayden Dickinson (5-11, 175, 4.6), OL/LB Mark Haygood (6-2, 190, 4.9), OL/DL Marcus Herrera (6-0, 240, 5.1), WR/DB CJ Jimenez (5-10, 170, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Eduardo Jacquez (5-10, 225, 5.1), OL/DL Aiden Gerhardt (6-0, 180, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB Weston Mitchell (6-0, 185, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL/DL Jonah Harris OL/DL, OL/DL Jackson Poe, K Fabian Diaz.

2025 notes: Last year saw many ups and downs, but by the end of the season the Wildcats shook off a slow start and won 10 games, a district championship and advanced to the state quarterfinals for a 12th time in 13 years. QB Mitchell saw limited action a year ago but the job is now his. Dickinson (1,629 yards, 20 rushing TDs) had a breakout 2024 and has even bigger expectations this fall.

CHILDRESS BOBCATS (318)

Coach: Bo Helm. Letterman R/L: 10/17. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Jacob Mora (6-0, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Cutter Bruce (6-2, 200, 5.2), RB/LB Colton Teichelman (5-11, 210, 4.9), RB/LB Crewz Keys (6-0, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: QB/DL Jonah Reed (6-1, 215), QB/DB Koen Galligan (6-0, 170).

Other prospects: RB Lucian Davis, WR/DB Luke Rodriguez, WR/DB Julian Silva, OL/DL Alex Varner.

2025 notes: The Bobcats will have to find a quarterback heading into the season opener. QB Galligan and Reed both return from seeing snaps last year and are expected to battle it out during fall camp. RB Davis (630 yards) came on the scene in a hurry as a durable asset last year. On the defensive side, LB Mora (130 tackles) is a run stopper that will get help from DL Tiechelman.

IDALOU WILDCATS (286)

Coach: Clay White. Letterman R/L: 15/18. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-3 regional semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Kamdon Lutrick (6-0, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Aiden Barrera (5-9, 145, 4.5), OL/DL JT Phillips (6-1, 230, 4.8), TE/DL Peyton Moyers (6-2, 180, 4.7), RB/WR/DB AJ Huddleston (5-11, 185, 4.6), RB/LB Gavin Vinson (5-11, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Cooper Hammock-Wilson (5-9, 150, 4.6), TE/DL Hunter McClendon (6-1, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL/DL Karter Haralson (6-1, 220, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Drake Swift, OL/DL Jose Rodriguez, WR/DB Colt Gandy.

2025 notes: The Wildcats lost a massive senior class that takes a lot of wins with them over the past three years. In Idalou, it's never a rebuild, it's a reload mentality and that begins with QB Lutrick, who is a dynamic player and a strong asset on the defensive side. WR Barrera (207 yards receiving) is a three-year starter and OL Phillips paves the way for the run-heavy offense.

LITTLEFIELD WILDCATS (364)

Coach: Bo Bryant. Letterman R/L: 20/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-5 regional semifinalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Ben Castillo (5-10, 180, 4.8), QB/LB Nate Castaneda (6-2, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Uriel Ibarra (6-0, 215, 5.0), OL Tate Clark (5-10, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Zane Chapman (5-7, 150, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Jayden Barrio (6-2, 180, 4.8), OL/DL AJ Cantu (6-2, 210, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL/DL James Lockridge (6-3, 245, 5.2).

Other prospects: DL Diego Lopez, LB Dawson Adkins.

2025 notes: Littlefield has the big boys coming back and the size and strength to compete with anyone on the schedule in 2025. OL/DL Ibarra and Clark are leaders in the trenches. LB Castillo (160

DIMMITT BOBCATS (313)

Coach: Jimmy Arias. Letterman R/L: 14/8. Starters Returning: 7/6. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jack Lunsford (6-2, 180), ATH Kaden Carpio (6-0, 175), ATH Joaquin Arias, ATH Xaden Vargas, ATH Octavio Arias, ATH Isaiah Sifuentez, ATH Gustavo Lopez, ATH Josiah Torres, ATH Ivan Martinez, ATH Aiden Murray.

2025 notes: Veteran head coach Jimmy Arias takes over the Bobcat program following a stint as the defensive coordinator in Muleshoe. Prior to Muleshoe, Arias was the winningest coach in Friona history with 49 wins in eight years. Arias inherits a Dimmitt team that struggled last season but does return Jack Lunsford, who showed signs of promise at QB. Arias' son, Joaquin, gives Dimmitt depth in the backfield after starting at RB in Muleshoe last season.

FRIONA CHIEFTAINS (303)

Coach: Elias Carrillo. Letterman R/L: 13/14. Starters returning O/D: 7-6. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Aaron Rosales (5-8, 155, 4.6), WR/DB Jameson Daniels (5-11, 170, 4.6), Isaac Ortiz-Carrillo (5-7, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Mario Garza (5-11, 205, 5.0), DB Frank Gutierrez (5-8, 150, 4.8), FB/LB Jacob Gonzalez (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: RB Iram Rodriguez (5-8, 155, 4.6), OL Julio Escobar (5-10, 235, 5.2). Top sophomore: RB/LB Hector Aguirre (5-9, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Gael Lara, OL/DL Diego Quezada, RB/LB Rafael Rocha, OL/DL Eden Mills, WR Tony Diaz.

2025 notes: The Chieftains are hoping to build on where they left off last year after winning the final two regular season games to qualify for the postseason. The formula for success is there with dual-threat QB Rosales (717 yards, 6 TDs rushing). Helping in the powerful rushing attack is RB Ortiz-Carrillo (529 yards) and Rodriguez (403 yards). DL Garcia (84

tackles) provides the pop on offense and defense, while WR Chapman (597 yards, 8 TDs receiving) gives the team an outside weapon.

LUBBOCK ROOSEVELT EAGLES (347)

Coach: Carter Robinson. Letterman R/L: 17/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-5/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jaden Zuniga (5-11, 190, 4.9), TE/DL Jonathan Harris (5-11, 185, 5.0), RB/DB Jason Jenkins (5-9, 160, 4.5), OL/DL Brock Schutte (6-2, 260, 5.2), QB/DB Cole Hatchett (5-9, 155, 4.7), RB/LB Gavino Webster (6-1, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: TE/DL Cameron Vasquez (5-10, 220, 5.1), WR/DB Ricardo Perez (5-8, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL/DL Nik Herrera, TE/LB Sy Weller.

2025 notes: Coach Robinson feels, though his Eagles will be looking for a new starting QB, that this team will be stronger and in the mix when it comes to the postseason. As for that QB spot, Hatchett or Webster should be able to fill the shoes. Roosevelt does return its top RB in Zuniga (402 yards) from last year and DL Harris, who racked up eight sacks a year ago.

MULESHOE MULES (350)

Coach: Bo Dickinson. Letterman R/L: 21/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Josue Sigala (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL/DL Jake Villanueva (6-1, 225, 5.0), WR/LB Johnny Hernandez (5-7, 145, 4.7), TE/DL Brayton Butler (6-1, 210, 5.0). Top juniors: OL/DL Evan Jenkins (5-8, 185, 5.0).

2025 notes: Muleshoe begins a new era under first-year head coach Dickinson. While many things will look different for the Mules, the expectation of winning stays the same for this proud program. What also looks familiar is the very explosive ATH Sigala (536 yards, 7 TDs rushing), who plays a huge factor in all three

District 1-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Slayden Dickinson, Canadian

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jacob Mora, Childress

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Canadian
2. Childress
3. Friona
4. Tulia
5. Dimmitt

tackles), LB Gonzalez (56 tackles) and DB Gutierrez (75 tackles) gives Friona a solid base on defense.

TULIA HORNETS (272)

Coach: Fred Jordan. Letterman R/L: 4/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Logan Becerra (6-2, 185, 4.7), DL Manuel Hernandez Jr. (5-10, 210, 5.4), WR Gustavo Trevino (5-10, 170, 4-6), DB Jarvis Pastrana (5-9, 170, 4.6), DB Adrian Reyes (6-1, 180, 4.6), RB Za'Brian Frost (5-10, 180, 4.5), QB Julius Johnson, WR CJ Parker, DB J'Ven Leija, WR Aiden Marquez, DT Zheke Salinas.

2025 notes: Jordan snapped a six-year playoff drought in Year 1, getting Tulia to the first round of the playoffs last season. To bank on that happening once again, the Hornets will have to look to a young group to step up and fill roles. WR Becerra (600 yards, 10 TDs receiving) is one veteran that is a leader for the team. DT Hernandez Jr. (43 tackles) is another reliable player. DBs Pastrana and Reyes are going to be asked to have bigger roles.

phases and will have something to prove after being hurt midway through last season. Dickinson will need to find a QB to replace three-year starter Nathan Martens.

SLATON TIGERS (356)

Coach: Clint Conkin. Letterman R/L: 22/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jacob Lopez (5-9, 165, 4.7), LB Mason Martinez (5-10, 210, 4.9), DL Jeremy Floyd (5-10, 165, 4.9). Top juniors: WR Z'qedrian Whaley (6-1, 150, 4.6), RB Javen Lovato (5-7, 145, 4.6).

2025 notes: Conkin went from one win his first year to seven his second season at Slaton. Year 3 is even more promising with a chance at a district title, thanks to 17 starters returning. QB Lopez (767 yards, 18 TDs rushing) is a very talented dual-threat leader that is coming off a big season. WR Whaley and RB Lovato are very good in open space and LB Martinez (204 tackles) is one of the most impressive players at the small school level.

District 2-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kamdon Lutrick, Idalou

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Mason Martinez, Slaton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Idalou
2. Slaton
3. Littlefield
4. Muleshoe
5. Lubbock Roosevelt

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
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CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ALPINE BUCKS (303)

Coach: Jerry Dominguez. Lettermen R/L: 7/7. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Deadrick Hardwick (6-0, 160, 4.7), RB/LB A.J. Llanez (5-9, 230, 4.9), TE/LB Rode Babb (6-2, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Darious Portillo (6-2, 185, 5.0). Top junior: RB/LB Marcus Ramirez (5-10, 160, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB/DB Ezra Lujan.

2025 notes: ATH Hardwick is one of the Bucks' biggest threats on offense, but it's on defense where he left his mark with five interceptions in a two-game stretch in 2024. RB/LB Llanez is the leader of the defensive front seven and Dominguez has high hopes for him to take on a larger offensive role. Behind those two seniors are a bevy of underclassmen that have the potential to become stars, including TE/LB Babb and OL/DL Portillo.

ANTHONY WILDCATS (247)

Coach: Michael Stephenson. Lettermen R/L: 17/11. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 1-10 bi-district finalist/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Esteban Cardenas (5-8, 225), RB Alfonso Cisneros (5-8, 170, 4.7), QB/DB Joey VanErt (5-10, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Anthony Sanchez (5-10, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Aaron Acuna (5-11, 215, 4.9), WR/DB Abel Jimenez (5-6, 150, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Wildcats enter the season with a plethora of sophomores looking to step into critical roles. QB/DB VanErt brings poise and what Stephenson calls an ability to be "one of the great quarterbacks." He will have fellow sophomore WR/DBs Sanchez and Jimenez as big-play threats. Sanchez can stretch the field while Jimenez will

take on multiple roles. OL/LB Cardenas brings intensity as a two-way player, while RB Cisneros is a big-play threat.

CRANE GOLDEN CRANES (343)

Coach: Robert Ontiveroz. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 6-6 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Tyson Brents (6-1, 185, 4.8), RB/LB Gracin Huertas (5-10, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Aaron Padilla (6-3, 250, 5.2), WR/DB Baldemar Aguirre Guzman (5-10, 165), TE/LB Brayson Newberry (6-1, 190, 5.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Adien Medina (5-10, 225, 5.6), OL/DL Daylen Hightower (5-10, 220, 5.6). Top sophomore: WR/DB Kobe Walker (5-11, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/LB Izayah Saucedo, TE/DB Guillermo Partido.

2025 notes: Crane's biggest advancement during the offseason was Ontiveroz's continued development as he enters his second year as a head coach. RB/LB Huertas, TE/LB Newberry and OL/LB Saucedo are the featured stalwarts in Crane's 3-4 defense and highlight the eight returning starters on that side of the ball. Huertas is a powerful back on offense and doesn't shy away from contact. WR/DB Aguirre Guzman became a starter midway through 2024 and his speed should help the offense.

ODESSA COMPASS COUGARS (367)

Coach: Boe Smith. Lettermen R/L: 31/7. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Braxton Morris (6-1, 155, 4.7), ATH Ryian Farris (5-11, 165, 4.6), RB/LB

as the quarterback and is a key player in all phases of the game.

MERKEL BADGERS (296)

Coach: Wes Wood. Lettermen R/L: 15/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 0-10/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Easton Malone (5-9, 180, 5.1), WR/DB Mayson Prieto (5-6, 120, 4.8), WR/DB Kaden Blubaugh (6-0, 180, 4.8), RB/LB Rayson Houston (5-11, 180, 5.1), WR/DB Eliseyo Delgado (5-6, 120, 4.8), RB/LB CJ Guadarrama (5-5, 145, 4.8). Top junior: WR/DB Tristan Quinonez-Smith (5-7, 130, 4.9).

2025 notes: QB/LB Malone gained valuable experience as a freshman and Wood has high hopes for him as both enter their second year with the Badgers program. Malone is a respected team leader and has developed a special rapport with fellow sophomore WR/DB Prieto. WR/DB Blubaugh is a dynamic two-way player who has bought into Wood's philosophy and leads by example. RB/LB Houston and WR/DB Delgado both play all-out, every snap, and never come off the field.

STANTON BUFFALOES (317)

Coach: Gary Griffin. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-5 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Aidan Orona (5-8, 145, 4.7), WR/LB Gage McCown (6-2, 185, 4.9), WR/DB Kolton Bruner (5-7, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Jayden Hinojosa (5-11, 165, 4.6), QB/DB Isaiah DeLeon (5-10, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Oscar Salcido (6-3, 265, 5.1). Top juniors: OL/DL Sebastian Pena (5-11, 200), OL/DL Erik De La Torre (5-9, 195). Top sophomore: RB/LB Luis Anaya (5-9, 170).

2025 notes: While the Buffaloes are coming off their first winning season in over a decade, it could be hard for the squad to repeat that success as Griffin says they lack varsity experience heading into the year. Despite their youth, the Buffaloes have a lot of chemistry and that is something that Griffin expects to help early season growth. Seniors WR/DB Orona, WR/LB McCown, WR/DB Bruner and QB/DB DeLeon will lead the way on the field.

District 3-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Deadrick Hardwick, Alpine

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Braxton Morris, Odessa Compass

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Odessa Compass
2. Crane
3. Alpine
4. Anthony

Brady Smith (5-9, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Caleb Ortiz (6-2, 260, 5.5), OL/DL Cayden Ash Hendricks (6-3, 290, 5.5), K/P Christian Bush. Top juniors: QB/DB Kasen Smart (6-0, 160, 4.8), WR/DB Caleb Stout (6-0, 160, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/DB Valois Tercero.

Other prospects: WR/DB Barret Hall, QB Mason Hicks, WR/DB Kaison Bivins, WR/DB Rylan Ford, RB/LB Max Tucker, ATH Jacob Bartlett, DL Remington Hinesly, OL/DL Braden Hogan.

2025 notes: After seeing WR/DB Morris excel defensively in all aspects of the game as a junior, the Cougars are going to work to get him more involved in the offensive attack this year. ATH Farris, like Morris, is someone that plays physically on defense and is coming off a season in which he scored six touchdowns on just 31 offensive touches. His big-play ability is something that the Cougars will need to take advantage of to have a special season.

WALL HAWKS (343)

Coach: Craig Slaughter. Lettermen R/L: 26/18. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 13-2 state semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Landon York (6-3, 180, 4.9), WR Reid Robertson (6-1, 170, 4.5), WR Evan Boehle (6-0, 175, 4.5), DB Hagyn Barbee (5-9, 170, 4.5), OL Baine Jenschke (6-3, 275, 5.4), OL Reid Ballard (6-0, 230, 5.4). Top juniors: OL Gage Jacoby (6-2, 230, 5.2), LB Slayton Hallmark (6-0, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: DL Mason Steen (5-10, 240, 5.2).

Other prospects: DB Levi King, LB Jacob Braden, OL Rylan Scandolari, DE Dylan Sellers, LB Gavin Sisson, DL Koen Braden, WR Kellan Oliver, DB Bryson McFadden.

2025 notes: After rebranding as a spread offense in 2024, the Hawks enter this season with QB York (3,767 yards, 48 TDs passing) and all his top skill players returning. That experience has Slaughter confident that the offense will be able to carry the team during the early part of the season while Wall rebuilds the defense. WR Robertson brings explosiveness to the perimeter and will benefit from WRs Boehle and Oliver drawing additional attention.

District 4-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Landon York, Wall

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Hagyn Barbee, Wall

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Wall
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. San Angelo Grape Creek
5. Merkel

COAHOMA BULLDOGS (303)

Coach: Chris Joslin. Lettermen R/L: 20/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-4 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DE Landon Wells (6-4, 215, 4.9), QB Boyd Cox (6-0, 180, 4.9), DB Noel Loya (5-11, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Jayden Henderson (5-8, 150, 4.7), WR/DB Andre Rushin (5-9, 155, 4.5), RB/DL Gage Simmons (5-9, 185, 4.8). Top juniors: ATH Lanson Moore (5-10, 175, 4.9), QB/WR Austin Joslin (5-11, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DB Austin Molina (5-11, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Brady Anderson, OL/DL Van Goswick, OL/DL Cloud Arriola, LB Aiden Bryand, DE Ben Rubio, DB Levi Green, OL/DL Ayden Rubio, TE/DE Jordan Gonzales.

2025 notes: Coahoma is switching from a 3-4 defense to a 4-2-5, and Joslin is excited about the possibilities that will open for players like DE Rubio, DBs Loya and Green and WR/DB Molina. QB Cox already holds four school records and looks to build on his legacy as a senior. TE/DE Wells is a big target in the passing game and is a nuisance for opponents to contain on defense. WR/DB Henderson does anything he needs so Coahoma can succeed.

GRAPE CREEK EAGLES (331)

Coach: Tanner Thiel. Lettermen R/L: 16/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Sire Garcia (5-11, 210, 4.8), ATH Braley Woods (6-2, 195, 4.9), RB Anthony Saavedra, TE/DB Gabriel Santilan (6-1, 185, 4.7), FB/LB Chris Duron. Top junior: OL/LB Hayden Simpson. Top sophomore: FB/LB Jayshawn Johnson (6-0, 198, 4.8).

2025 notes: Traditionally undersized, Grape Creek has embraced the underdog role during Thiel's eight seasons. RB/LB Garcia (1,349 total yards) is a threat in all phases of the offense and is a workhorse for the Eagles. ATH Woods, who split time at several positions as a junior, will take over

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BRADY BULLDOGS (292)

Coach: Jaron Roberts. Lettermen R/L: 22/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Demarcus Reed (5-10, 245), OL/DL Nasir Menefield (6-4, 360), QB/DB Sean Jacoby (6-1, 175), RB/DB Ashton Taylor (5-10, 165), ATH Colby Hinton (6-0, 190), OL/DL Caden Gillaspia (6-4, 235), RB/LB Johnny Roque (5-10, 170), OL/DL Ian Castillo, QB/DB Blane James, OL/DL Zech Ledezma, OL/DL South Smith, ATH Alijah Stark, RB/LB Benjamin Valdez, OL/DL Brody Powell, TE/DE Cooper Powell, LB Isaak Tarr, WR/DB Ethan Bernal.

2025 notes: OL/DLs Reed and Menefield set the tone on both sides of the line of scrimmage and Roberts has big plans for the dynamic players as two-way starters. QB/DB Jacoby stands to be the biggest benefactor with his football intelligence as he can hurt opponents with both his arm and his legs. RB/DB Taylor gives the Bulldogs a shifty backfield option.

CLIFTON CUBS (314)

Coach: Brent Finney. Lettermen R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jackson Ritz, OL/DL Alijah Calderon, OL/DL Luis Galindo, RB/DB Judd New, RB/LB Gavin Tattershall, OL/DL Odin Rountree, OL/DL Ivan Galindo, RB/LB Rowdy Bishop, RB/DB Braxton Stone, TE/DB Deacon Williams, OL/DL Jacob Humphries, RB/DB Jared Ramirez, OL/DL Victor Flores, RB/DB Erhen Shakya, OL/DL Edgar Navarro, WR/DB Zach Sedberry, RB/LB Elyjah Rodriguez.

2025 notes: The Cubs enter the season with a strong junior class that has three players starting on the offensive line – which Finney calls the team's strength. QB/DB Ritz gives Clifton a dual-threat under center who can be a gamechanger. RB/LB Tattershall is the lone veteran in a linebacker corps that will have to grow quickly.

DUBLIN LIONS (327)

Coach: Greg Hardcastle. Lettermen R/L: 16/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

CITY VIEW MUSTANGS (344)

Coach: Akeem Leviston. Lettermen R/L: 19/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Malachi Williams (5-8, 170, 4.8), RB/LB Matthew Whiteside (6-0, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Jayden Bradford (6-3, 226, 4.9), OL/DL Blaine Hill (6-2, 220, 5.3), WR/DB Colton Barnett (6-2, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: First-year coach Leviston looks to keep the momentum going that the Mustangs had under the late Heath Aldrich. They'll have the district's most explosive player in QB Williams (1,982 yards, 19 TDs passing; 1,110 yards, 22 TDs rushing) and the most disruptive defensive lineman in Bradford (108 tackles, 33 TFLs). City View must find a new go-to receiver, but it does have two-way all-district lineman Hill and LB Whiteside looking to step up after a strong sophomore season.

HENRIETTA BEARCATS (295)

Coach: Jay Jones. Lettermen R/L: 22/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Cruse Coleman (6-0, 175), OL/DL Case Brown (6-4, 295), WR/DB Cooper Coleman (6-4, 185), TE/LB Gage McDonald (6-1, 190), QB/DB Chaden Clark (5-10, 170), TE/DB Cooper Gee (6-0, 185).

2025 notes: The Bearcats are looking to rebound after a rare missed playoff appearance. They'll benefit from a second season in Jones' systems and the return of the Coleman brothers. Cooper (32-748 yards, 8 TDs receiving) will be Clark's top target, while Cruse was 6-3A's Newcomer of the Year. OL Brown, a first-team 6-3A selection, leads a group of seniors that gained valuable experience last year.

HOLLIDAY EAGLES (364)

Coach: Kyle Atwood. Lettermen R/L: 21/16. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 11-3 region finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Kreedee Neal (6-3, 245, 5.0), RB/LB Brayden Hamill (6-1, 185, 4.6), WR Ty Harrison (6-0, 160, 4.6), QB/DB Brady Jones (5-8, 165, 4.6), DB Owen Hays (5-8, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Heston Davis (5-9, 225, 4.9), WR Hudson Dray (6-1, 165, 4.8), OL/DL Cobi Joe Davis (5-

9, 210, 5.0), QB/DB Alex Teten (5-9, 140, 4.9), WR/DB Ruben Bustillos (5-10, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Jayden Balvantin (6-3, 265, 5.1), DL Luis Elicerio, OL/DL Westin Rollins, RB/DE Joe Salinas, WR/DB Julian Caldera, WR/DB Ron Bahena, ATH Kyler Gaitan, OL/DL Edwin Nevarez.

2025 notes: The Lions enter the season looking for their third playoff berth in five years under Hardcastle and the veteran coach thinks the squad has the potential up front to do that. Several players in the trenches gained valuable experience last year and they've bulked up during the offseason, led by DL Elicerio.

EARLY LONGHORNS (365)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 25/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Andrew Reedy (5-8, 180), RB Cameron Love (5-9, 205), LB Mario Vasquez (5-9, 180), OL/DL Ben Wilson (6-0, 240), LB Braeden Schafer (5-10, 180), WR/DB Jaxon Stockman (5-11, 170), OL/DL Riley Barton (6-1, 275), WR/DB Brennan Rasor (6-3, 170), OL/DL Rhett Smith, OL/DL Rhett Williams, DL Logan Jackson, QB/DB Caden Wilson, LB Angel Marquez, RB/LB Brandon Walker.

2025 notes: The Longhorns need to find someone to lead the offense; QB/DB Wilson can step into that role and take pressure off RB could. Should Wilson capitalize on the opportunity, he will have a strong supporting cast that is led by WR/DB Reedy surrounding him.

EASTLAND MAVERICKS (325)

Coach: Matt Landers. Lettermen R/L: 14/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Kye Herrington (5-10, 165), TE/DE Cameron Wilson (6-0, 185), WR/DB Samuel Cruz (5-10, 150), RB/DB Chris Ojeda (5-8, 170), RB/DE Bandy Johnson (6-1, 175), RB/DB Kye Schuman (6-1, 195), FB/LB Ben Bird (6-1, 195), OL/DT Isaac Robles (5-8, 220), OL/DT Tank Johnson (6-1, 240), FB/LB Xavier Rodriguez, RB/DB Brenden Foust, RB/DB Isai Carrizales.

2025 notes: The Mavericks are under new leadership in Landers, who was Goldthwaite's DC

9, 210, 5.0), QB/DB Landon Jones (6-1, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: The Eagles should be a regional contender again, although they'll need to replace several key pieces from a record-setting offense, including their quarterback. RB Hamill (580 yards, 6 TDs rushing) and WR Harrison (38-696 yards, 9 TDs receiving) are proven offensive playmakers who'll now take on bigger roles. Holliday won't have as much size, but it'll lean on senior linemen Neal and Davis. DB Hays (149 tackles) is a difference-maker on defense.

JACKSBORO TIGERS (348)

Coach: Casey Hubble. Lettermen R/L: 14/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/4. 2024: 9-4 regional semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Wyatt Gavit (6-0, 190, 4.8), DE Lucas Cornish (6-1, 190, 4.6), RB Luis Balderrama (5-8, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Will Treadway (6-0, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Kase Dennis (6-2, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Padun Seabury (5-11, 170, 4.7), OL Joxan Delgado, WR/DB Lochlan Pardue, QB/LB Hoytt Wesson.

2025 notes: Jacksboro will be in the mix for a district title as Gavit (3,667 yards, 45 TDs passing) returns to lead an offense that lost its top couple of wideouts. RB Balderrama (985 yards, 11 TDs rushing) stepped up when injury hit last year and should be in line for a productive senior season. The Tigers' defensive strength is up front with Cornish (72 tackles, 5 sacks) and Treadway (66 tackles, 4 sacks), while Dennis (5 INTs) leads the secondary.

MILLSAP BULLDOGS (322)

Coach: Jacob Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 10/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Brogan Sims (6-4, 195, 4.8), OL Grayson Hunkapiller (5-11, 200, 5.2), WR/DB Luke Camarillo (5-10, 170, 4.7), TE/LB Dillon Clay (6-3, 205, 4.8), OL/DL Lane King (5-11, 215, 5.2), OL/DL Isaac Gonzales (6-3, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Levi Tippie (5-9, 240, 5.5), LB Corey Goen (6-0, 200, 4.7), RB/LB Braun Johnson (5-10, 190, 4.6), WR/DB Thad Marek, DL Jimmy Thomas, WR/DB Madden Gilbert, WR Gabe Jones, OL/DL Tyson Johnson.

District 5-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jackson Ritz, Clifton

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Demarcus Reed, Brady

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1. Tolar | 5. Dublin |
| 2. Brady | 6. Early |
| 3. Clifton | |
| 4. Eastland | |

and took Lubbock Roosevelt to a state semifinal back in 2021. He inherits a team long on experience, including a strong senior class. QB/DB Herrington is a four-year starter in the secondary and a second-year starter on offense.

TOLAR RATTLERS (282)

Coach: Blake Mouser. Lettermen R/L: 15/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 11-2 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Dacen Watkins (6-3, 176, 4.6), WR/DB Noah Yanish (5-8, 150, 4.6), RB/LB Kelvin Murray (5-10, 195, 4.7), TE/DB Cayden Abrego (6-2, 210, 4.8), QB Briton Rice (5-11, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Anson Laminack (5-11, 172, 4.7), TE/DB Ethan Tidwell (6-1, 225, 5.0), OL/DL JW Rickabaugh, WR/DB Noah Boulanger, TE/LB Seth Blount, WR/DB Rowdy Tryon, RB/LB Matthew McCarten, OL Ryder Rhodes, OL Waylon Bellah.

2025 notes: Deep playoff runs have become the standard on the Snake Farm. Despite losing the winningest senior class in school history, the Rattlers are poised to reload with their subvarsity teams coming off district titles. QB Rice has most of his top targets back this fall and that should help ease the transition.

2025 notes: An established senior class combined with an undefeated JV group make the Bulldogs look like a playoff team on paper. Sims missed last year due to injury, but the towering QB is a special player. The offensive line is a strength with seniors Hunkapiller, King and Gonzales, while DB Camarillo and LB Clay (56 tackles) are defensive cornerstones. RB Johnson leads a group of exciting sophomores.

VALLEY VIEW EAGLES (280)

Coach: Amos Davidson. Lettermen R/L: 10/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Aaron Epperson, OL/DL Kash Sparkman, QB/DB Jake Prescher, WR/DB Kane Wittbold, LB Cash Cartwright, WR/DB Blaine Clark, QB Brady Bachman, OL/DL Kanton Miskell.

2025 notes: New coach Davidson, a Valley View alum, takes over. Linemen Epperson and Sparkman highlight a strong junior class hoping to turn around a program that's endured five straight losing seasons. Prescher (1,207 yards, 9 TDs passing) returns at QB and has Wittbold as a top target, but they lack an established runner. Cartwright (107 tackles) returns to lead a defense that needs to take a step forward.

District 6-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Wyatt Gavit, Jacksboro

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Owen Hays, Holliday

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Holliday | 5. Henrietta |
| 2. Jacksboro | 6. Valley View |
| 3. WF City View | |
| 4. Millsap | |

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

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BELLS PANTHERS (317)

Coach: Dale West. Lettermen R/L: 18/11. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Caden King (6-0, 240, 4.8), RB/LB Jaxon Brown (5-9, 170, 4.9), RB/DB Easton Branam (6-0, 165, 4.8), OL Josh Cordell (5-9, 200, 4.8), QB Easton Hartline (6-4, 170, 4.8), RB/LB JD Washington (5-11, 175, 4.7), DL Matt Anderson (5-10, 180, 4.9), OL Blake Reeves (5-11, 160, 4.9), OL Tanner Saxon (6-0, 250, 5.2).

2025 notes: The Panthers will lean on their offensive and defensive lines as they eye a 12th straight playoff appearance. DT King will cause problems with his combination of size and strength, while Cordell and Anderson were first-team 7-3A selections in 2024.

BLUE RIDGE TIGERS (296)

Coach: Jason Russell. Lettermen R/L: 22/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Caleb Gaddis (6-2, 175, 4.4), RB/DB Jacob Walker (5-10, 180, 4.4), QB Liam Finan (6-3, 195, 4.7), RB/DB Keven Olvera (5-11, 185, 4.6), TE/DL Brody Goodman (6-2, 205, 4.6), OL Jayce Harris (6-4, 290, 5.5), OL Jonatan Espinoza (6-5, 295, 5.4), OL Harley Norris (6-2, 265, 5.2), WR/DB Jonathan Cheatham (6-4, 165, 4.8), OL Simon Martinez, TE/DL Gavin Burch, RB/WR/DB Tyse Lennon, RB/LB Michael Santillano, WR/DB Bryant Purser, OL/DL Ben Pitts, LB Ollie Espinoza, RB/DB Hunter Dyer.

2025 notes: The Tigers had a breakout year in Russell's debut and they look primed to repeat it. Gaddis (1,267 yards, 19 TDs receiving) is a dynamic playmaker, while Walker will take the bulk of the carries running behind a massive offensive line.

CALLISBURG WILDCATS (339)

Coach: Corey Roberson. Lettermen R/L: 20/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Gustavo Perez (6-0, 290), OL/DL Teagan Lindsay (6-5, 260), QB/DB Quintin Box (6-1, 190, 4.6), RB/LB Gabe Zinski (5-6, 175, 4.7), RB/DL Teagan Barnett (5-11, 205, 4.7), OL Bowen McAdams (5-11, 220), DB Chris Walker (5-11, 185, 4.8), WR Trace

Pauler (5-9, 170, 4.7), LB Braddock McKnight (5-10, 195, 4.8), DL Michael Christian, DB Michael Hammer, OL/DL Logan Grisham, DL Michael Wright, OL Adriel Kule.

2025 notes: After having a four-year playoff streak snapped, Callisburg brings back a wealth of experience in the trenches. DT Perez has been starting since a freshman, while seniors Lindsay and McAdams lead the offensive line.

GUNTER TIGERS (363)

Coach: Jordan Gill. Lettermen R/L: 19/36. Starters returning O/D: 2/5. 2024: 14-2 state champion/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Jay Campiti (6-0, 190, 4.5), TE/DL Rhys Dainauski (6-3, 230, 4.7), QB/DB Knox Gage (5-10, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Cole Bolt (6-0, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Creed Rainer (6-1, 235, 4.8), RB/DB Benjamin Rodriguez (5-9, 160, 4.6), RB/LB David Puga (5-9, 195, 4.6), RB/LB Blake Boland (5-7, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Gage Prescott, OL Dillon Wylie, OL Mauricio Porras, DB Braeden McDaniel, WR/DB Alex Fenner, OL Caleb Siler, OL Alex Valenzuela, RB/DB Parker Aleman, RB/DB Witten Overman.

2025 notes: Gunter is going for a four-peat, but the Tigers were hit by graduation and a surprise coaching change. RB Campiti will be an offensive focal point, while Gage — the new trigger-man for the Tigers' attack — headlines a strong sophomore class.

HOWE BULLDOGS (364.5)

Coach: Andrew Harvey. Lettermen R/L: 17/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Dillon Patterson (6-1, 230, 5.1), WR/DB Eli Stoner (6-2, 180, 4.8), RB/LB Garrett Rodgers (5-8, 170, 4.8), ATH Rylan Strong (6-0, 175, 4.5), WR/DB Riken Cross (5-8, 168, 4.4), LB Charles Fuhr (5-8, 175, 4.9), DE Brevin Mayo (6-1, 210, 4.8), OL/DL Jakob Griffo, QB/DB Deacon Bender, OL Will Ingram, DL Alex Mejia, WR/DB Kendall O'Brien, RB/LB Bryce Pieper.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs will hang their hat on defense with three-year starters at safety in Stoner (46 tackles) and at linebacker with Rodgers and Fuhr. Howe will have a QB battle between Strong and Bender.

District 7-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

WR Caleb Gaddis, Blue Ridge

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Caden King, Bells

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. Gunter | 5. Callisburg |
| 2. Bells | 6. Howe |
| 3. Blue Ridge | 7. SGS Consolidated |
| 4. Leonard | |

LEONARD TIGERS (255)

Coach: Justin Dozier. Lettermen R/L: 11/13. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jacoby LaCook, WR/DB Zaylen Summers, WR/LB Allan Cass, RB/LB Luke Wymmer, OL/DL Kenyon Summers, WR/DB Justis Foster.

2025 notes: The Tigers should be in the mix again for a playoff berth thanks to having one of the district's most explosive players in LaCook, who rushed and passed for more than 1,000 yards as a junior.

SGS CONSOLIDATED RAMS (314)

Coach: Dan Pike. Lettermen R/L: 21/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Hunter Courville (6-0, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Barret Achorn (6-1, 275, 5.2), OL/DL Rylan McSpedden (5-11, 265, 5.1), WR/DB Joe Orr (5-9, 158, 4.6), RB/LB Eli Nortman (5-9, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Brody Colwell (5-10, 170, 4.9), OL/DL/LB Hayden Harkins (6-0, 178, 4.9), WR/LB Brightin McNabb, OL/DL Ruffin Brubaker.

2025 notes: Pike saw growth despite a winless first season, and the Rams expect to see improvement. Courville (1,030 yards, 9 TDs passing) is a dual-threat QB and the team's top returning tackler.

BLOOMING GROVE LIONS (276)

Coach: Jason Burnett. Lettermen R/L: 16/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Grayson Baumgartner (5-9, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Keegan Bell (6-5, 265), WR/LB Weston Clark (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL/LB Nate Sanchez (5-9, 230), WR/S Clay Crawford (6-0, 170, 4.6), WR/CB Andrew Lara (5-8, 160, 4.6), RB/FS Alan Caballero (5-9, 150, 4.5), WR/S Casen Reed (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL/LB Levi Williams.

2025 notes: The Lions expect to be improved in Burnett's second season with seven starters back on both sides. RB/DE Baumgartner is a two-way starter and state powerlifting qualifier. OL/DL Bell is a force on both sides of the ball and will be the anchor in the trenches, while WR/LB Clark is the team's top returning tackler. Junior RB/FS Caballero was first-team all-district offensively and defensively.

CEDAR HILL TLC TIGERS (241)

Coach: Kenny Wooten. Lettermen R/L: 28/8. Starters returning O/D: 10/6. 2024: 2-9 3A DII bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Corbin Jones (5-10, 175, 4.6), QB Londen Cook (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Javan Shields (5-8, 190, 4.6), WR Preston Edwards (6-2, 175, 4.6), WR Damian Demas (6-3, 170, 4.5), DB Treveon Patterson (5-10, 175, 4.5), OL Lee Toney (6-4, 340), OL Caleb Moore (6-1, 275), DB Chris Lewis (5-8, 155, 4.6), LB Anthony Armstead, DL Kamarion Turner, DT Donovan Marshall.

2025 notes: New coach Wooten, previously an assistant at Frisco Centennial, takes over. The Tigers should be strong after nine wins on the field a year ago (seven were later forfeited), but a veteran group is back as they look to challenge for a district title. RB Jones and QB Cook lead a speedy offensive attack. LB Shields topped 100 tackles in 2024 and DB Patterson helps anchor the defense.

DALLAS GATEWAY GATORS (112)

Coach: Byron Eaton. Lettermen R/L: 13/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 2-6-1/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Shaunbrey Watson (5-

9, 150, 4.6), DT Ivan Simmons (6-0, 200, 4.7), LB Deavian Long (5-10, 170, 4.6), OL Jordan Lilly (5-11, 200, 4.7), WR Earnest Henderson (5-7, 145, 4.6), WR Deonta Jennings Jr. (5-7, 140, 4.6).

2025 notes: New head coach Byron Eaton takes over a Gateway squad that had struggles on and off the field a year ago. They should be improved with a deep group of playmakers on the outside, led by WR Watson. The Gators defense will be led by LB Long and DT Simmons. Eaton says depth and size on the offensive line are concerns heading into fall camp.

INSPIRED VISION EAGLES (352)

Coach: Hank Willis. Lettermen R/L: 24/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Ken Webb (5-8, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Gerson Ordonez (6-0, 275), B/LB Uriel Rodriguez (6-1, 265, 4.7), WR/DB Isaac Lopez (5-8, 135, 4.5), QB/FS Morgan Lee (5-8, 150, 4.5), OL/DL Bryan Yepez, OL/DL Kevin Hernandez, TE Aiden Campa (6-1, 200, 4.7), WR/DB Kennedy Jimenez, WR/DB Lennyn Zamora, RB/LB Steve Miranda.

2025 notes: In Willis' first season, the Eagles posted two wins and more improvement could be in store for 2025. Junior RB/DB Webb is a dynamic playmaker who is entering his third season as a starter; he'll operate behind two-way OL/DL Ordonez, who has started for the Eagles since his freshman season. LB Rodriguez, a three-year starter, is the leader of the Inspired Vision defense, which will lean on physicality in 2025.

RICE BULLDOGS (328)

Coach: Royce Slechta. Lettermen R/L: 22/10. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR Brody Lawhon (6-2, 180, 4.6), K Caleb Diaz (5-11, 170, 4.6), RB Alvaro Contreras (5-7, 165, 4.6), QB Jalon Burks (6-2, 180), LB Angel Salazar (6-0, 175, 4.8), S Reece Ellington (5-11, 160, 4.7), WR Andy Diaz, WR Matias Garcia, LB Jose Madera, DE Chase Dearen, OL/DL Noe Moreno.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs expect to be much improved as Slechta welcomes back 17 starters,

led by sophomore WR Lawhon, who was a breakout performer as a freshman. QB Burks is back and if the offense can cut down on turnovers, the Bulldogs could be tough to stop. LB Salazar (81 tackles, 3 sacks) had a big sophomore season and will lead the Rice defense.

SCURRY-ROSSER WILDCATS (358)

Coach: John David Caffey. Lettermen R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Caleb Peavy (6-3, 195, 4.6), RB/LB Micah Williams (5-10, 205, 4.7), OL/DE Colten Smith (6-3, 235), LB Logan Mullins (5-10, 225, 4.9), TE/LB Case Kilgore (5-11, 220, 4.9), QB Makade Bragg (6-4, 180), WR/DB Mason Muncrief, QB/DB Eli Hutchins, WR/DB Landon Draper, RB/DE Nash Ferguson, RB/DB Kai Mokiao, OL/DL Levi Taylor, OL/DL Jake Cypert, DB/K Gavin Willis.

2025 notes: A good senior group has moved on, but Caffey believes the Wildcats still have the pieces to make a run at another district crown. ATH Peavy is an explosive two-way player who could get a look at QB. RB/LB Williams is another two-way force for the Wildcats. Junior LB Mullins was a monster as a sophomore and will lead the defense.

District 8-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Corbin Jones, Cedar Hill TLC

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Caleb Peavy, Scurry-Rosser

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Cedar Hill TLC | 5. Dallas Inspired Vision |
| 2. Scurry-Rosser | 6. Dallas Gateway |
| 3. Blooming Grove | |
| 4. Rice | |

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

DALE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

EDGEWOOD BULLDOGS (298)

Coach: Kevin Bachtel. Lettermen R/L: 17/4. Starters returning: 8/9. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Trevor Golightly (6-0, 195, 4.8), WR/DB Jathen Johnson (5-10, 150, 4.6), WR/DB Tony Smith (6-3, 180, 4.6), RB/LB Lucas Pippin (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Preston Sluder (6-2, 200, 5.1), LB/RB Jacob Kimbrough (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: WR/DB Aiden Fincher (6-0, 150, 4.8), OL/DL Triston Linzy (6-0, 225, 5.2).

Other prospects: WR/DB Dominick Jackson, RB/LB Brian Paniagua, LB Treston Turner, OL Brendan Mulligan.

2025 notes: Points should not be a problem for a Bulldog team that returns nearly everyone from an explosive offense. Golightly (3,470 yards, 40 TDs passing; 616 yards rushing) has his choice of weapons in WRs Johnson (51-937 yards, 15 TDs receiving) and Smith (59-886 yards receiving) and RB Pippin (1,422 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 30-325 yards receiving). Kimbrough (150 tackles) is back to lead the way on the defensive side of the ball.

GRAND SALINE INDIANS (337)

Coach: Joe Drennon. Lettermen R/L: 11/9. Starters returning: 7/7. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Jett Taylor (6-1, 195, 4.4), WR Kolton Prox (6-3, 175, 4.5), TE Gavin Rodriguez (6-5, 240, 4.8), OL/DL Gabe Lewis (6-0, 245, 5.1), LB Kaison Bolin (5-11, 215, 4.7), OL/DL Landon Landry (6-0, 240, 5.1). Top juniors: WR Preston Hass (5-10, 160, 4.7), TE Weston Akins (6-4, 225, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB Austin Dugan (5-6, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DL Blake Lopez.

2025 notes: The Indians made a seven-win jump a year ago, and have the talent – especially on offense – to keep trending upward. QB/DB Taylor (1,863 yards, 30 TDs rushing; 1,593 yards, 15 TDs passing; 40 tackles, 7 INTs) can do it all, and Prox (38-1,003 yards, 26 TDs receiving; 5 INTs) also has next-level talent. Drennon says TE/DE Rodriguez (1 TD receiving; 57 tackles, 5 TFL, 3 sacks) does the dirty work up front on both sides of the ball.

HARMONY EAGLES (283)

Coach: Brian Mauk. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning: 8/7. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DL Blayne Hart (6-5, 225, 4.9), QB/LB Cy Stracener (6-0, 190, 4.7), RB/LB Reece Ellison (6-1, 190, 4.9), WR/DB Kaleb Potter (6-1, 185, 4.8), DB/WR Sammar Jones (5-11, 165, 4.8), FB/DL Tegan Wise (6-0, 215, 4.9). Top juniors: DB/WR Cooper Pickitt (5-7, 160, 4.7), TE/DL Irelynnd Underwood (6-3, 200, 4.9). Top sophomore: FB/DL Tucker Armstrong (5-11, 205, 5.0).

Other prospects: RB/LB Cody Pritchett, OL/DL Ethan Pool, WR/DB Brittyn Phillips, FB/DL Brayden Morris, WR/DB Noah Arreloa, WR/DB Cooper Cox, OL/DL Rowdy Myers, RB/LB Michael Madsen.

2025 notes: The Eagles started slowly in coach Mauk's first season, but cranked it up and earned valuable playoff experience. WR Hart (36-508 yards, 6 TDs receiving) is a huge target who can win 50/50 balls, and Stracener (527 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 2 TDs passing) and Ellison (448 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 27-294 yards, 3 TDs receiving) return to give the offense some firepower. Jones (89 tackles, 3 INTs) and Potter (58 tackles) are solid defensive holdovers.

LONE OAK BUFFALOES (345)

Coach: Logan Turner. Lettermen R/L: 17/9. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Slayde Parnell (6-3, 185, 4.0), OL Tyson Hampton (5-10, 215), LB Sammy Rodriguez (5-10, 165, 4.8), LB Hayden Thomas (5-8, 200, 4.9), DB Christian Morris (5-11, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Travis Scott (6-2, 240). Top juniors: WR/LB Noah Coulter (6-0, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Danny Barahona (5-10, 165, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jackson Debord (5-10, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Owen Mann, ATH Wyatt Marker, WR/DB Max Ramirez, RB Alex McCallum, RB/LB Moises Perez, DL Van Jeter, WR/DB Alberto Sarmiento, WR Joseph Whitehead.

2025 notes: The return of QB Parnell (1,510 yards, 23 TDs passing) and DB Morris (40 tackles, 2 INTs) from late season injuries should bode well for the Buffaloes. Hampton is a three-year starter and the leader up front on offense, and LBs Rodriguez (94 tackles, 6 TFL) and Thomas (72 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 INT) return to head up the defense. Big things are expected from Debord, who proved he belonged at the varsity level as a freshman.

PARIS CHISUM MUSTANGS (312)

Coach: Zach Millsap. Lettermen R/L: 18/3. Starters returning: 10/9. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Gavin Johnson (5-8, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Hunter Holland (5-11, 245, 5.3), RB/LB Tanner Spear (5-10, 155, 4.8), QB/DB Gunner Termin (5-8, 145, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Zeke Baird (5-8, 155, 4.7), WR/LB Hayes Chalaire (5-9, 160, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB/LB Brayden Jordan (5-9, 155, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Wyatt Easley, WR/LB Aiden Riley, OL/DL Jarrett Leverett.

2025 notes: Depth, especially in the trenches, is an issue for the Mustangs, so staying healthy is a must. Plenty of veterans return on both sides of the ball, and the offense should be much improved with the return of Johnson (310 yards rushing; 85 tackles, 2 INTs), Spear (354 yards, 6 TDs rushing; 13-254 yards, 2 TDs receiving; 117 tackles, 18 TFL, 2 INTs) and QB Termin (633 yards, 4 TDs passing; 190 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 42 tackles).

PRAIRILAND PATRIOTS (281)

Coach: Herb Smith. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters

District 9-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jett Taylor, Grand Saline

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Sammy Rodriguez, Lone Oak

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Grand Saline
2. Edgewood
3. Lone Oak
4. Gilmer Harmony
5. Prairiland
6. Quitman
7. Paris Chisum

returning: 6/8. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: FB/DB Austen Gordon (5-9, 165, 4.9), RB/LB Easton Newman (5-11, 170, 4.9), RB/DB Aiden Youngblood (6-1, 180, 4.7), TE/LB Luke Rhoades (6-1, 175, 4.9), FB/LB Jayden Whitaker (5-9, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Callan Bridges (6-0, 170, 4.9). Top juniors: RB/DB Adam Anderson (6-0, 170, 4.9), OL/LB Aiden Lane (5-11, 165, 5.0). Top sophomore: RB/DB Stayton Lewis (5-11, 160, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL/DL Cayden McQueen, OL/DL Keegan Galbraith, OL/LB Ethan Accosta, OL/DL Jackson Middleton, RB/DB Logan Paton, TE/DL Jack Phillips.

2025 notes: After letting several games get away from them in the fourth quarter last season, the Patriots will rely on a veteran senior class to turn things around. Gordon (1,021 yards, 8 TDs rushing) was the offensive workhorse a year ago, and Rhoades (92 tackles, 13 TFL, 5 sacks), Whitaker (88 tackles, 7 TFL), Anderson (66 tackles) and Lane (66 tackles) are top returners on the defensive side of the ball.

QUITMAN BULLDOGS (352)

Coach: Shane Webber. Lettermen R/L: 20/3. Starters returning: 9/7. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Klayton Meadows (6-2, 217, 4.7), WR/DB Bryson Hobbs (6-4, 187, 4.7), WR/DB Dakota Reynolds (5-10, 147, 4.5), RB/LB Preston Flores (5-8, 201, 4.8), RB/DB Davis Watson (6-0, 187, 4.7). Top juniors: RB/LB Ben Boisclair (5-9, 201, 4.7), TE/DL Cameron Hobbs (6-0, 223, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL/DL Luke Ferguson (6-0, 243, 5.0).

Other prospects: WR/DB Rhett Kelly, WR/LB Jacob Powell.

2025 notes: Depth and overall team speed are concerns for the Bulldogs, but coach Webber believes his team has a mature, experienced, and strong senior class that will help lead Quitman to a postseason appearance for the first time since 2011. Meadows is the team's top returning passer and rusher, while Hobbs is a big target and reliable receiving threat. Flores, Powell, and Meadows return to lead the defensive unit.



Slayde **PARNELL**
Lone Oak quarterback

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

DAINGERFIELD TIGERS (326)

Coach: Davin Nelson. Lettermen R/L: 25/11. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 8-6 region finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Regin Wallace (5-9, 160, 4.4), RB Ashton Williams (5-10, 184, 4.5), LB Tanner Teeter (6-1, 170, 4.7), QB Isaiah Parker (5-11, 187, 4.7), LB Tamar Palmer (5-10, 183, 4.7), WR Mason Williams (6-2, 170, 4.8). Top juniors: DB Jy'Kyrin Craver (5-10, 165, 4.4), LB Isaiah Wilbarger (5-10, 175, 4.5). Top sophomore: LB Micah Broughton (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL Devin Gholston, OL Markell Reeves, RB Cordairious Elkins.

2025 notes: Injuries and learning a new offensive system led to a slow start, but tradition took over and the Tigers played into December a year ago. Wallace (43-947 yards, 11 TDs receiving) is explosive when he touches the ball, and Williams (569 yards, 7 TDs rushing) returned from an injury to do solid work in seven games. Parker (697 yards, 9 TDs passing; 87 tackles, 2 sacks) started at LB but got quality playing time at QB.

DEKALB BEARS (278)

Coach: Troy Zeringue. Lettermen R/L: 14/11. Starters returning: 6/8. 2024: 11-2 region semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Dom Dunn (5-10, 210, 4.7), RB/DL Kayden Wherry (5-10, 210, 4.7), WR/DB Walker Matteson (5-9, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Landen Roberts (5-11, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Keiwon Neal (5-6, 140, 4.5), LB Isaiah Crow (5-8, 175, 4.7). Top junior: WR/DB Bryuan Gardner (5-9, 150, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Bears improved by three wins last season, and with explosive players all over the field and a speedy, veteran defense, don't expect much decline. Dunn (88 tackles; 800 yards rushing) is dynamic on offense and a hitting machine on defense, and Wherry (1,600 yards rushing, 600 yards receiving, 20 total TDs) is a physical runner with extreme quickness. WR/DB Matteson (59 catches; 118 tackles) will hurt teams on both sides of the ball.

HOOKS HORNETS (308)

Coach: Chris Birdwell. Lettermen R/L: 20/13. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Ripken Birdwell (6-0, 191, 4.7), LB Jasper Crain (5-11, 187, 4.8), WR Jamarion Smith (6-1, 167, 4.5), OL/DL Tyler Connell (6-0, 238, 4.9), WR Romeo Minter (6-2, 180, 4.6), RB/DB Casen May (5-10, 177, 4.5). Top juniors: RB/DB Kavon Stiger (5-10, 173, 4.5), OL Caden Mobley (6-0, 247, 5.3). Top sophomore: RB/DB Corbin Edwards (5-10, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Grant Rampy, DB Fabean Grigsby, WR Preston Nickolson, LB Drake Shelton, OL Cruz Juarez, OL Corbin Curtis, DL Travaly Aldridge, DL Carr Krueger.

2025 notes: A large senior class means experienced depth at key positions for the Hornets. QB/LB Birdwell (2,403 yards, 22 TDs passing; 531 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 41 tackles) is primed for a great senior season, and has key weapons back in WRs Smith (46-768 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and Minter (29-478 yards, 4 TDs receiving). Crain (114 tackles, 21 TFL, 2 sacks) has led the team in tackles the past two seasons.

HUGHES SPRINGS MUSTANGS (331)

Coach: Blake Worley. Lettermen R/L: 12/14. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB AJ Morton, QB Daxon Worley, OL Axcil Cruz, DL Billy Prince, RB/LB Bo Ray Lindsey. Top juniors: WR/DB Bryson Morrow, FB/LB Blaine Shaw. Top sophomore: WR/DB Jansen Savage.

Other prospects: WR/DB Tyler Skelton, WR/PK Nino Ballesteros, RB/DB D'Bari Abron, WR Logan Fickling, OL/DL Trent Akers, LB/FB David Reyes, OL/DL Maxx Cantu, OL Joe Jedlick.

2025 notes: The Mustangs struggled in league play, but won four games overall after an 0-10 2023 campaign. Good numbers return, and the JV won six games, so things should continue to improve in Worley's second season on the sidelines. The defense struggled late, giving up a little more than 47 points per game in district play, but Pemberton, Prince, Lindsey, Shaw and Savage are all returning veterans on that side of the ball.

District 10-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Ripken Birdwell, Hooks

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Regin Wallace, Daingerfield

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Daingerfield | 5. Redwater |
| 2. DeKalb | 6. Hughes Springs |
| 3. Hooks | 7. Queen City |
| 4. New Boston | |

NEW BOSTON LIONS (343)

Coach: Stan Kimbell. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Ashton Rowden (6-0, 196, 4.5), OL/DL Eli Walker (6-2, 280), ATH Kason Campbell (6-0, 156, 4.4), OL/DL Westin Pepper (6-3, 260), OL/DL Evan Stuppard (5-10, 270), RB/LB Brycen Thomas (5-9, 160). Top juniors: RB/LB Kaiden Megason (5-10, 170), RB/LB Kenyadda Moore (6-0, 170). Top sophomore: DL/TE Jackson Murphy (6-3, 180).

Other prospects: RB/DB Demetrian McChesler, RB/LB Kenny Hoffman, WR/RB Kendaranta Sherman, OL/DL Brice McBee, OL/DL Juan Delgado, WR/DB Colton Thomas, OL/DL Jockoby Kasitati, TE/LB Nate Goodner.

2025 notes: The Lions welcome new coach Kimbell, who was Jefferson's defensive coordinator. Expect his team to control the line of scrimmage on both sides this season. RB Rowden (1,652 yards, 20 TDs rushing) is explosive and has great vision, and Walker is an agile, dominant blocker. Expect Campbell to make big plays all over the field, and keep an eye on DL/TE Murphy, who has great size for a sophomore.

QUEEN CITY BULLDOGS (292)

Coach: David Wilbanks. Lettermen R/L: 15/6. Starters returning: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL David Jackson (6-2, 295, 5.0), RB Jason Joffray (5-10, 185, 4.7), OL/DL Leevi Byrum (6-3, 245, 4.9), OL/DL Kordell Federick (5-8, 235, 4.9), WR Daketrick Smith (6-0, 180, 4.5), WR/DB Derrell Sewell (5-8, 155, 4.6). Top junior: TE/LB Trent Belk (6-2, 185, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL/DL Justin Pankey (6-4, 320, 6.3).

Other prospects: QB/DB Malaki Richardson, DB D.J. Henson, TE/LB Chris Brown.

2025 notes: Second-year head coach Wilbanks sees familiar faces all over the field, but says a QB needs to emerge if the Bulldogs are to turn things around. Jackson (91 tackles, 24 TFL, 3 sacks) is a high motor player who averaged over 150 snaps per game last season, and Byrum is a big, athletic lineman who returns from an injury. Joffray (580 yards, 9 TDs rushing) is a solid runner who doesn't mind blocking.

REDWATER DRAGONS (351)

Coach: Bryce Haugh. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning: 6/8. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Lawson Angel (5-8, 195, 4.9), DB JaVoundrick Vaughn (5-8, 150, 4.5), LB Dylan Pfister (5-8, 155, 4.8), OL Tucker Frachiseur (6-3, 225, 5.3). Top juniors: QB/DL Braelan Morgan (6-4, 190, 4.8), OL/DL Maddox Matkoff (5-10, 250, 5.2). Top sophomore: RB/LB Kaiden Johnson (6-2, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB Cooper Bailey, OL Nathan Pool, DL Wyatt Palmer, QB/LB Will Strudthoff, WR Guy Wheat, WR/DB Caleb Kimble, TE Mason Rampy, LB Miller Whitt.

2025 notes: The Dragons won two of three to end the 2024 season, and the JV squad posted six wins, so look for improvement in 2025. Morgan (1,104 yards, 13 TDs passing) has good size and a year of experience leading the offense, and the defense should be solid with the return of Angel (64 tackles, 9 TFL, 2 sacks), Vaughn (28 tackles, 4 INTs), Matkoff (40 tackles) and Pfister (64 tackles, 3 TFL).



Toby DAVILA
QB/DB
Lytle



Nathan GIARDINE
LB/RB
San Antonio Cole



Lamont FRANKLIN
RB/WR/DB
Goliad



Marcel MOLINA
OL/DL
San Diego



Ben CASTILLO
RB/LB
Littlefield



Josue SIGALA
ATH
Muleshoe



Esteban CARDENAS
OL/LB
Anthony



Tyson BRENTS
QB/DB
Crane

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ARP TIGERS (302)

Coach: Wes Schminkey. Lettermen R/L: 19/10. Starters returning: 7/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Zane Bourque (5-10, 170, 4.6), TE/LB Jaxon Schminkey (6-1, 225, 4.9), RB/LB Josh Smith, OL Eli Ladd (6-0, 250, 5.4), OL/DL Zion Washington (5-10, 200, 5.1), WR/DB Wyatt Johnson (5-9, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: RB/LB Hudson Orpineda (5-9, 155, 4.90), RB/LB Wyatt Calley (5-9, 155, 4.9). Top sophomore: QB/DB Ty Langley (5-9, 145, 4.8).

2025 notes: Depth in the trenches is a concern, but the Tigers will have several three- and four-year starters on both sides of the ball and can also fill in holes from a 10-win JV team. Bourque (283 yards passing, 285 yards receiving, 13 total TDs in seven games) and Smith (1,500 yards, 19 TDs rushing; 114 tackles) have both been around for four years, and Ladd will be a three-year starter on the OL.

BUFFALO BISON (306)

Coach: Trent Jones. Lettermen R/L: 26/5. Starters returning: 10/9. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL Rhett Boyd (6-0, 200, 5.0), QB Cole Davis (6-2, 190, 4.6), RB Donte Lott (5-10, 170, 4.5), WR Elijah Harper (5-9, 170, 4.5), WR/RB Hayden Shaw (5-10, 170) Top juniors: OL Pablo Gonzalez III (5-11, 280), OL Bryan Gonzalez (6-0, 290). Top sophomore: WR/RB Deandre Turner (5-9, 160, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Mason Nedbalek, RB/LB Darrell Oshea, OL/DL Carson Avriett, FB/LB Nathan Pruitt, FB/DL Gus Brewer, OL/DL Brody Duncan, TE/LB Preston Jones, TE/LB Aden Gonzalez.

2025 notes: Almost every starter on both sides of the ball returns for a Bison team that managed just one win a year ago, and help could also come from a four-win JV team. Scoring points shouldn't be a concern with the return of senior QB Davis (1,700 yards passing, 1,100 yards rushing, 26 total TDs), RB Lott (450 yards, 12 TDs rushing), WR Harper (20-405 yards receiving) and Turner (35-350 yards, 7 TDs receiving).

ELKHART ELKS (309)

Coach: Ryan Blackmon. Lettermen R/L: 14/11. Starters returning: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Dalton Walker (5-10, 175, 4.4), QB/DB Coyt Cooper (6-0, 205, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/DL Grayson Harris (6-2, 215, 4.9), WR/DB Riley Phillips.

Other prospects: RB/LB Jackson Denney, WR/DB Johnny Franklin, WR/DB Brannigan Blackmon, WR/LB Nick Rodriguez, OL/DL Hayden Pittman, TE/DL Callyn Franklin, WR/DB Colton Foster, OL/DL Landon Westbrook.

2025 notes: New coach Blackmon, promoted from special teams coordinator, takes over. There are no questions about RB Walker (1,250 yards rushing, 30

total TDs), who has great explosiveness, is tough to tackle and will be the team's unquestioned "go to" guy. QB Cooper has good size and some experience, and OL/DL Harris will lead the way up front on both sides of the ball.

NEW DIANA EAGLES (314)

Coach: Jason Pitts. Lettermen R/L: 17/18. Starters returning: 3/2. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB DeJuan Johnson (5-9, 170, 4.5), WR/DB Peyton Jones (6-0, 175, 4.4), OL/DL Hunter Davis (6-3, 260, 5.4), OL/DL Andy Orona (6-4, 275, 5.5), DL/QB Jamarion Johnson (6-3, 255, 5.2), RB/LB Alex Sheridan (5-9, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: PK/WR Christian Gomez (5-8, 150, 4.8), RB/LB Lucas Newland (5-9, 170, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/DB Lardonick Linwood (6-0, 150, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Preston Tackett, DL Cayce Miller, WR/DB Troy Schneider, OL/DL Hayden Schneider, RB/LB Rickey Evans.

2025 notes: The Eagles are hard to get a read on — on one hand, they were decimated by graduation; on the other, they bring back sensational playmakers that will keep them in every game. QB Johnson (2,218 yards, 32 TDs passing; 1,366 yards, 19 TDs rushing) is one of the most dynamic playmakers in the state, and big things are expected from his brother, Jamarion (55 tackles, 3 sacks, 14 TFL), on the DL. WR Jones is a big play waiting to happen.

TROUP TIGERS (323)

Coach: Sam Wells. Lettermen R/L: 24/7. Starters returning: 9/9. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Brett Wells (5-8, 180, 4.4), WR/DB James Pierce (6-1, 175, 4.6), OL/DL A.J. Dewberry (6-3, 285, 5.0), LB Noble Kendrick (6-1, 190, 4.5), DL Caden Starkey (6-0, 235, 4.9), OL Logan Lockett (6-2, 210, 5.1). Top juniors: QB Josh Childress (5-10, 175, 4.6), TE Riley Blackmon (6-1, 180). Top sophomore: WR/DB Cameron Williams (5-9, 165, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Hayden Huml, LB Luke Skillern, LB Jackson Waller, OL Anthony Zuniga, OL JW Becerra, TE/DB Logan Chambers, OL/LB John Allen, WR/DB De'Carryon Hollie.

2025 notes: The Tigers have gone 9-2 and 8-4 over the last two seasons, and that could just be a starting point for a team that brings back plenty of experience, speed and depth at the skill positions. RB/LB Wells (1,500 yards rushing; 117 tackles) and WR/DB Pierce (509 yards receiving; 62 tackles) are both explosive, intelligent playmakers on both sides of the ball, and Dewberry (35 tackles, 9 TFL, 4 sacks) simply dominates up front.

WEST RUSK RAIDERS (349)

Coach: Rafe Mata. Lettermen R/L: 15/17. Starters returning: 7/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

District 11-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB DeJuan Johnson, New Diana

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Brett Wells, Troup

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Troup | 5. Elkhart |
| 2. Arp | 6. Buffalo |
| 3. New Diana | 7. Winona |
| 4. West Rusk | |

Players to watch: WR/DB Judson Dotson (6-0, 180, 4.5), RB/LB Hunter McCandless (6-1, 195, 4.6), DL Adrian Vargas (5-10, 225, 5.1), WR/DB Kemontae McGregor (5-10, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Kam Brown (6-1, 155, 4.8), OL Phoenix Carrillo (6-1, 265, 5.1). Top junior: RB/DB Taylor Williams (6-0, 180, 4.5). Top sophomore: QB Troy Hunley (5-9, 185, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Kyron Reed, OL Jose Sanchez, DL/TE Anthony Starling, WR/DB Gunner Harp, LB/RB Caiden Landon, LB/FB Drake Mills, TE/DE Sincere Cleaver.

2025 notes: The Raiders struggled early, but rallied to win half of their district games and earn a playoff spot. Help is needed up front, but playmakers are back with the athletic, dangerous Dotson (18-232 yards, 2 TD; 568 yards rushing, 4 TD; 789 yards passing, 8 TDs) and RB/LB McCandless (383 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 104 tackles). Vargas (39 tackles, 5 sacks) is strong and quick, and got better with each game last season.

WINONA WILDCATS (305)

Coach: Kenneth Cook. Lettermen R/L: 5/15. Starters returning: 5/4. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: LB Jesse Barton (5-8, 4.9), QB Easton Smotherman (5-10, 175, 4.8), RB Jayden Mobley (5-7, 155, 4.7), WR Datavian Williams (5-8, 155, 4.7), DL Jarious Kincade (5-11, 175, 5.1). Top juniors: DB Dyllon Hampton (5-8, 155, 4.9), WR Kaiden Hewitt (5-10, 160, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL Mason Kennedy (5-9, 220, 5.3).

Other prospects: OL/LB Jared Hernandez, WR Kelton White, OL Kameron Hewitt.

2025 notes: The Wildcats will be small and inexperienced up front on both sides of the ball, but first-year coach Cook believes his team can win battles with speedy, experienced skill position players. QB Smotherman (97 yards, 2 TDs passing) should be ready to be "the man" on offense, and Barton (22-252 yards, 5 TDs receiving; 115 tackles) is a solid two-way holdover. Mobley (112 yards, 2 TDs rushing) should get plenty of chances to carry the rock.



Brett WELLS
Troup running back/linebacker

Photo Credit: John Murphy

Class 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ANDERSON-SHIRO OWLS (278)

Coach: Brad Hodges. Lettermen R/L: 18/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Ta'Colton Calhoun (5-9, 170, 4.7), QB Logan Jackson (6-2, 215, 4.9), OL Randy Mills (6-3, 315), WR/LB Kieran Gill (6-1, 190, 4.7), WR/LB Carter Sechelski (6-0, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Layton Bailey (5-9, 245). Top sophomore: QB/LB Dalton Sechelski (6-0, 175, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Owls will lean heavily on the talents of RB Calhoun (1,035 yards, 8 TDs rushing) as they work in new QB Jackson (386 yards, 3 TDs passing; 197 yards, 3 TDs rushing), who moves to QB full-time. WR/LB Gill (24-420 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 59 tackles, 4 sacks,) is a four-year starter who does a little bit of everything, including handling kicking duties. OL Mills is a four-year starter that is the anchor in the trenches for the Owls.

KOUNTZE LIONS (333)

Coach: Todd Paine. Lettermen R/L: 13/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 4-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/S Camden Johnson (6-2, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Mason Brothers (5-9, 265), ATH Kade Bumstead (5-10, 185, 4.8), WR/LB Nathan Barker (5-8, 185, 4.7), TE/DE Monroe Johnson (6-3, 220, 4.8), WR/CB DC Coffey (6-1, 165, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/DL Carson Martin (6-2, 295), RB/LB Beau Biddle (5-8, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: ATH Maddox Martinka (5-9, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Dylan Linscomb, WR/DB Jonathan Cole, OL/DL Gael Alvarez, WR/DB Brayden Connor, RB/DB Gage Parker, OL/DL Slade Belvin, OL/DL Brandon Harris, OL/LB Jose Alvarez.

2025 notes: With a strong group of skill players returning, Paine thinks the Lions can get back to the playoffs, but staying healthy will be vital as there's not a ton of depth. QB/S Johnson (589 yards, 8 TDs passing; 490 yards, 6 TDs rushing) is back to lead the offense. ATH Bumstead can play anywhere on the field, while WR/LB Barker is also an all-district punter.

NEW WAVERLY BULLDOGS (330)

Coach: Dean Schaub. Lettermen R/L: 22/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/S Travia Davis III (5-10, 175, 4.5), DE Jaxon Hathorne (5-10, 210, 4.6), LB Otto Weinland (5-9, 175, 4.7), WR Nathan Dipprey (5-9, 125, 4.5), QB Ryson Nunez (5-9, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Isaiah Hulings (6-1, 220). Top juniors: WR Rhyder Armstrong (5-9, 170, 4.7), WR Leo Escobedo (5-10, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: LB Colin Namken (5-11, 185, 4.7).

Other prospects: S Dub Simmons, S Ethan Petross, CB Kenton Reece, OL/DL Cedric Pohamou, OL/LB Will Colley, RB/LB Max Tomczak, RB Khalil Major.

2025 notes: After a playoff appearance a year ago, the Bulldogs will lean on their veteran defense with seven starters back. RB/S Davis III (460 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 80 tackles) is a key two-way player, while DE Hawthorne (65 tackles, 11 sacks) is a dominant playmaker along the NWH's defensive line. Sophomore QB Nunez (318 yards, 3 TDs passing) emerged late in the year and started three games as a freshman.

NEWTON EAGLES (278)

Coach: Drew Johnston. Lettermen R/L: 20/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Kendray Porter, Jr. (5-9, 185, 4.5), ATH Braylen Patterson (5-6, 150, 4.5), QB/DB Deldrick Samuel (6-0, 180, 4.7), DE Dylan Walker (6-1, 220, 4.9), RB/DB Caveland Hunter (6-0, 185, 4.6), LB Braylon Watson (5-9, 190, 4.7). Top junior: RB/DB Dayland Alfred (5-7, 150, 4.5).

Other prospect: DB Taboris Joyce.

2025 notes: The Eagles return a veteran squad of 20 lettermen in hopes of pushing out of an always tough Region III come playoff time. RB Porter Jr. (2,328 yards, 36 TDs rushing) is one of the state's most productive backs and a home run threat whenever he has the ball. ATH Patterson (85 tackles, 12 total TDs) gets it done in a number of

District 12-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kendray Porter Jr., Newton

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Dylan Walker, Newton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. Newton | 5. Kountze |
| 2. Woodville | 6. Trinity |
| 3. Anderson-Shiro | 7. Warren |
| 4. New Waverly | |

ways on both sides of the ball. DE Walker (10 sacks) was the district defensive MVP in 2024.

TRINITY TIGERS (366)

Coach: Shaun Stout. Lettermen R/L: 21/4. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-5/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/FS Terian Maxie (6-4, 185, 4.5), RB/CB Ayden Debose (5-10, 175, 4.4), ATH Cove Copley (5-10, 180, 4.5), WR/CB Cord'e Walker (5-9, 170, 4.4), OL/DT William Coleman (6-7, 375), WR/DB Darryn Bass (5-11, 175, 4.5). Top juniors: OL/DT Jacob Lopez (5-10, 235), WR/LB Lanham Reynolds (6-1, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/SS Chance Barron (5-11, 180, 4.4).

Other prospects: RB/LB Jace Gambill, TE/DE Jamarian Corley, RB/LB Keadric Spillman, RB/LB Tyler Harris, OL/DT Christian Vaughn, OL/DE Cayden Knight, OL/DE Jaylen Clinton-Gates, OL/DT Mathew Reyes.

2025 notes: The Tigers will bring a veteran group to the table in 2025 as just four seniors graduated. QB/FS Maxie has the nickname "Turbo" and is a dynamic all-around athlete on both sides of the ball. Team speed is no issue for THS with RB/CB Dubose, ATH Copley and WR/CB Walker returning. OL/DT Coleman is a massive force up front on both sides of the ball. "We have to be able to prove ourselves in district play," said Stout.

WARREN WARRIORS (348)

Coach: Buddy Adams. Lettermen R/L: 12/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB James Barlow (6-1, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Bryce Dees (6-2, 260), RB/LB Michael Lambright (5-8, 175, 4.9), QB/DB Slade Mashaw (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Christopher Ramirez (6-2, 235), RB/DB Zack Redwine (5-10, 190, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Anthony Sekulich (5-11, 280), RB/DB Zane Yeagin (6-0, 155, 4.9).

2025 notes: Adams takes over at Warren after the Warriors struggled a year ago with just a single win. RB Barlow led the team in rushing and will carry the load for the Warren offensive attack and be a key force on defense. Junior OL/DL Dees had a big sophomore season and will be a force up front on both sides of the ball. Adams says overall team speed is a concern going into the fall.

WOODVILLE EAGLES (364)

Coach: Heath Clawson. Lettermen R/L: 15/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 13-3 state finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/K Gage Tolar (6-1, 190, 4.6), RB/DE Dustin Barlow (5-10, 230, 4.8), WR/DB KD McDaniel (5-8, 150, 4.6), CB James Kelly (6-1, 170, 4.6), ATH Tanner Ledoux (6-0, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Landen Primrose (6-1, 250). Top juniors: RB/DB Day Williams (5-9, 185, 4.6), QB Luke Babin (6-3, 185, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/LB Marquis Menefee (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: ATH Kenneth Rigsby, WR/LB Ethan Shird, CB Landen Harris.

2025 notes: Woodville advanced to its first state title game in school history a year ago; the Eagles head into 2025 with a new coach as Clawson takes over from Elgin. QB Babin (2,106 yards, 23 TDs passing; 350 yards, 5 TDs rushing) returns to lead the offense. WR/K Tolar (41-643, 5 TDs receiving) will be the top passing target and tough-running Barlow (1,174 yards, 16 TDs rushing) will pace the ground game along with talented youngsters RB/DB Williams and RB/LB Menefee.



**Nasir
MENEFIELD**
WR/DB
Brady



**Wyatt
GAVIT**
QB
Jacksboro



**Caleb
GADDIS**
WR
Blue Ridge



**Dillon
PATTERSON**
OL/DL
Howe



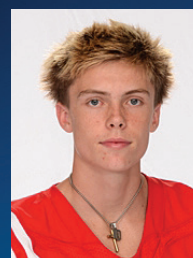
**Hunter
COURVILLE**
QB/DB
S&S Consolidated



**Corbin
JONES**
RB
Cedar Hill TLC



**Jett
TAYLOR**
QB
Grand Saline



**Slayde
PARNELL**
QB
Lone Oak

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

DAVE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BLANCO PANTHERS (358)

Coach: Kent Walker. Lettermen R/L: 20/9. Starters Returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Trey Atchley (6-0, 180, 4.7), DL Donovan Hector (5-10, 225, 5.0), QB Levi Golla (5-11, 160, 4.9), OL/LB Kaden Elrod (5-11, 220, 4.9), OL Jack Owens (6-5, 255, 5.3), WR/DB Colten Kuebel (5-11, 185, 4.7), DB/QB Caden Spivey (6-0, 165, 4.8), DB Cody Waltrip, WR Brodrick Siwecki, LB Hunter Rodriguez, DB Robbie Jimenez, LB Justin Karnes, ATH Diego Soto.

2025 notes: New coach Walker, who led 5A Liberty Hill to a state championship game in 2021, takes the reins. QB Golla (1,696 yards, 20 TDs passing), RB Atchley (1,531 yards, 15 TDs rushing) and WR Kuebel (555 yards, 4 TDs receiving) key an offense that must replace three multi-year OL starters. LB Elrod (88 tackles), DL Hector (8 sacks) and DB Jimenez (6 INTs) return to a speedy defense that can dominate.

COMFORT BOBCATS (364)

Coach: Jay Rieken. Lettermen R/L: 14/6. Starters Returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Topper Sterling (5-9, 163, 4.5), QB Carter Pape (5-11, 160, 4.5), OL/DL Alexis Padilla (6-1, 240, 5.0), DB Jovani Zapata (5-10, 162, 4.9), OL/DL Daniel Neri (5-11, 190, 5.0), RB/LB Hunter Ledlow (5-10, 173, 4.7), QB/DB/K Omar Rivera (6-0, 155, 4.9), DB/RB Jared Valadez (5-10, 150, 4.8), OL/DL Dax Stehling (6-1, 240, 5.0), OL/DL Mathias Toca, WR/DB Case Barrett, OL/DL Brian Robledo, RB/LB Gabe Gonzalez, TE/LB Sloan Straunsky, OL/DL Daniel Ciniceros, RB/DB Bryce Hanna, OL/DL Owen Schulze.

2025 notes: A third year in Rieken's system should help an experienced group of Bobcats challenge for a playoff spot. RB Sterling (1,113 yards rushing, 11 TDs) is a proven play-maker. QB Pape (338 yards rushing, 391 yards passing, 8 total TDs) should benefit from last year's experience along with WR Ledlow (534 total yards). The Bobcats must stiffen up defensively, led by

DL Padilla (50 tackles) and DB/K Rivera (2 INTs, 5 FGs).

LEXINGTON EAGLES (354)

Coach: Kirk Muhl. Lettermen R/L: 18/15. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Kase Evans (6-3, 195), OL Cutter Smith (6-2, 294), DL Gabriel Turner (5-11, 260), RB Noah Wright-Harris (5-10, 175), WR Weston Bayer (6-1, 165), DB Colten Smith (5-10, 190), OL Kasen Miller (5-11, 260), WR/DB Chris Smith (6-0, 175), DB Tripp Kellenberger, DB/WR Lincoln Bryan, DB Brock Herring, OL Jordan Muhl, OL Jackson Koester, DL Trace Kieschnick.

2025 notes: With QB Evans (3,113 yards, 37 TDs passing), WR Bayer (868 yards, 13 TDs receiving) and RB Wright-Harris (1,527 yards, 22 TDs rushing) behind a quartet of returning starters in OLs Smith, Miller, Muhl and Koester, the Eagles shouldn't have trouble lighting up scoreboards once again. If there's a challenge, it will be finding LBs to make plays between DL Turner and DBs Smith (74 tackles, 4 INTs) and Bryan (63 tackles, 7 sacks).

ROGERS EAGLES (258)

Coach: Casey Carr. Lettermen R/L: 22/10. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Tyson Sisneroz, WR/LB Kole Stephens, OL/DL Camryn Harper, WR/DB Kash Stephens, WR/DB Cash Smith, RB/LB Lucas Fuchs, RB/LB Jackson Marek, WR/LB Rodney Rosales, OL/DL Wyatt McLean, WR/DB Dylan Stowe.

2025 notes: If Carr can develop strength in the trenches, his Eagles may make last year's sub-.500 season a distant memory. Led by QB/DB Sisneroz (956 yards passing, 676 yards rushing, 20 total TDs), WR/DB Kash Stephens (156 yards receiving; 21 tackles), the offense should be better. WR/LB Kole Stephens and WR/DB Smith (2 INTs) will also be playmakers. OL/DL Harper returns and will team up

and missing the playoffs. Luddeke has some holes to fill in his first season.

RICE CONSOLIDATED RAIDERS (356)

Coach: Brad Dumont. Lettermen R/L: 10/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/RB/DB Robert Bennett (6-0, 180, 4.6), QB Kordae Johnson (5-11, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Zayde Cunningham (6-1, 268, 5.1), WR/DB AJ Jenkins (6-3, 184, 4.6), WR/DB Isaiah Castillo (5-8, 158, 4.5), DB Keundric Pratt (6-0, 170, 4.6), RB/DB Miguel Marquez (5-11, 172, 4.7), LB/TE Glen Mills (6-0, 243, 4.7), RB/DB Gabe Barrios (5-8, 160, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Raiders must replace a large graduating class that included a number of three-year starters. But they have the pieces to overcome the losses. QB Johnson is a three-year starter and will be surrounded by talented skill players.

TIDEHAVEN TIGERS (282)

Coach: David Lucio. Lettermen R/L: 25/10. Starters Returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 12-3 state semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to Watch: QB Kale Russell (5-10, 185, 4.6), WR Boogie Galvan (5-9, 180, 4.6), DB TJ Galvan (5-8, 170, 4.5), LB Bryce Sliva (5-10, 190, 4.6), DT Ethan Barker (6-0, 245, 4.8), OL Hayden Culbreath (6-3, 275, 5.0), TE Caiden Glaze (6-1, 200, 4.7), WR Ashton Klaiber, LB Levi Piwonka, OL Jose Alejo, DL Evan Saavdra.

2025 notes: Tidehaven was supposed to be in a rebuilding year after going to the state final, but put together a run to the state semifinals. The Tigers return nearly every starter from that team.

VAN VLECK LEOPARDS (337)

Coach: Shannon Permenter. Lettermen R/L: 24/17. Starters returning: 6/9. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Devin Barnes (5-11, 195, 4.8), RB/LB Connor Garrison (5-10, 185, 4.8), LB/TE Elijah Suarez (6-2, 235, 4.8), OL/DL Kolby Moss (6-0, 195, 5.0), OL/DL Tanner Arrington (6-1, 305, 5.2), DL/TE Xavier Thomas

District 13-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kase Evans, Lexington

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Donovan Hector, Blanco

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Lexington
2. Blanco
3. Rogers
4. Thrall
5. Comfort

with OL/DL McLean to challenge opposing offenses.

THRALL TIGERS (274)

Coach: Aaron Vanecek. Lettermen R/L: 17/13. Starters Returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jaden Spence (6-1, 185, 4.5), OL/DL Dakota Marak (6-2, 240, 5.1), RB/DL CJ Kelm (6-1, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Carson Suchoemel (5-10, 260, 5.2), LB Kaden Dickens (5-11, 195, 4.9), QB/DB Weston Smiley (6-2, 165, 4.5), WR/LB Logan Heselmeyer (6-1, 185, 4.7), RB/LB Weston Allen (6-2, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Josh Lopez, WR/DB Tye Urbis, K Alejandro Estrada, OL/DL Greyson Moehne, QB/DB Jack Gustafson, RB/LB Ty Matthews, LB/TE Colton Rohan, WR/LB Reed Crabb.

2025 notes: The Tigers will use their depth to make a push for a third straight playoff berth. WR/DB Spence and RB/DE Kelm will be counted upon to make plays while OL/DLs Marak, Navejas and Suchoemel provide the bulk up front. LB Dickens (59 tackles, 3 sacks) is a playmaker. Young RB/LB Allen has instincts that Vanecek likes, and QB/DB Smiley and WR/LB Heselmeyer have potential to star. K Estrada adds a strong, accurate leg.

BOLING BULLDOGS (311)

Coach: Kevin Urbanek. Lettermen R/L: 16/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jayden Salinas (5-10, 180, 4.6), LB Trenton Ross (6-0, 180, 4.8), OL Brayden Macek (6-0, 245), DL Marco Patino (6-0, 200, 4.8), OL Jackson Burditt (6-0, 250), OL Tyler Arriaga (6-0, 225), OL Oscar Gonzalez.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs figure to be stronger up front on both sides of the ball as they push to return to the playoffs. OL Macek and Burditt will be joined by Arriaga and Gonzalez, who played as sophomore. RB Salinas should benefit from the experience on the OL.

EAST BERNARD BRAHMAS (301)

Coach: Jeremy Jenkins. Lettermen R/L: 17/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/CB Amare Jones (6-0, 175, 4.6), RB Luke Anderson (6-1, 185, 4.6), DL Kanya Blunston (6-2, 230, 4.9), OL JJ Manteca (6-1, 270, 5.2), WR/DB Jackson Garvel (6-0, 180, 4.6), DL Lance Zapalac (6-1, 230, 5.0), Dom Munoz (6-0, 192, 4.8), Gage Jenkins (6-1, 170, 4.7), Jagger Riley (5-9, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Ronnie Vasquez, QB Dan Bartlett.

2025 notes: The Brahmans missed out on a district championship by one point, and were knocked out in the area round by two points. They expect to be in a position to have a different outcome in Year 2 of Jenkins' program.

INDUSTRIAL COBRAS (343)

Coach: Matt Luddeke. Lettermen R/L: 15/20. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Zach Villarreal (4.6), RB/LB Braedyn Vanduren-Fuller (4.6), OL/DL Garrett Kolodziejczyk (4.7), WR/DB Ga'Ziah Lopez (4.8), WR/DB Ryan Riddle (4.7), QB/DB Cooper Francis (4.7), WR/DB Easton Larew, RB/DB Wyatt Kurtz, OL/DL Fred Smith, WR/DB Cuyler Carney, OL/DL Colt Charbula, WR/LB Jayden Kemp.

2025 notes: The Cobras went through a difficult non-district schedule and a midseason coaching change before losing their final three district games

(6-2, 190, 4.7), RB/DB/K/P Jacob Schneider (6-1, 185, 4.6), DB/WR Collin Ashworth (6-0, 175, 4.6), TE/LB Graham Roberts (6-0, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Cole Newell, LB Eulelio Lopez, OL/DL Krishan Burk, OL/DL Porfirio Lopez.

2025 notes: The Leopards clinched a playoff berth on the final week of the season and went three rounds deep. Van Vleck looks for a better season with a majority of its starters back.

WALLIS BRAZOS COUGARS (308)

Coach: Patrick Oliver. Lettermen R/L: 17/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2025: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jarvse Dickerson (6-2, 185, 4.5), WR Jevan Dickerson (6-2, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Lucas Janis (6-1, 202), RB/DB Carter Morrison (5-8, 170, 4.7), RB/LB Gael Duran (5-7, 156, 4.6), WR/DB Matt Reyes-Garza (5-8, 140, 4.6), WR/DB Kolby Hatton (5-8, 214), HB/LB Luke Polasek (5-10, 175), WR/DB Chase Kuhn, RB/LB Ricardo Almaraz, WR/DB Connor Bertrand.

2025 notes: Coach Oliver returns to his hometown to improve the fortunes of his struggling alma mater. The Cougars have capable offensive players led by dual-threat QB Jarvse Dickerson, who is also a key piece in the secondary.

District 14-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kale Russell, Tidehaven

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

CB Amare Jones, East Bernard

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Tidehaven
2. East Bernard
3. Van Vleck
4. Altair Rice Consol.
5. Boling
6. Vanderbilt Industrial
7. Wallis Brazos

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

COTULLA COWBOYS (351.5)

Coach: Esteban Rodriguez. Lettermen R/L: 12/8. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Deric Aldalco (5-9, 240), LB/RB Marco Benavidez (5-7, 150), QB/DB Frank Torres (5-10, 150), WR/DB Brayden Rodriguez (5-11, 145), FB/LB Ricardo Ruiz (5-6, 180), TE/DL Joe Rodriguez (5-11, 170). Top juniors: OL/DL Alberto Agüero (6-0, 210), RB/DL Rene Barrera (6-0, 165). Top sophomore: RB/LB Reese Garcia (5-6, 150).

Other prospects: WR/LB Ryan Sanchez, RB/DB Roberto Perales, OL/DL Benito Castillo.

2025 notes: The Cowboys showed great improvement that included a bi-district win and hope to continue the upward trend. Cotulla will have depth, experience and more speed at the skill positions as it rebuilds the offensive line around Aldalco. Torres (55 tackles, 3 INTs; 473 yards, 3 TDs passing; 166 yards, 2 TDs rushing) made four starts at QB last season and will also play in the secondary. LB Benavidez (90 tackles) should also see action at RB.

DILLEY WOLVES (267)

Coach: David Silva. Lettermen R/L: 14/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2025: 9-3 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jonathan Eguia (6-0, 290, 5.1), OL/DL Zoziah Ramirez (5-10, 260, 5.3), FB/LB/K/P Juan Garcia (5-8, 175, 4.9), RB/DB Troy Gonzales (5-9, 155, 4.6), OL Jonathan Osio (6-1, 230, 5.2), OL Miguel Suarez (5-7, 255, 5.5). Top juniors: OL/LB Clause Castaneda (5-9, 185, 5.3), OL Milo Eguia (5-8, 175, 5.2). Top sophomore: OL/DL Nathaniel Torres (5-8, 165, 5.1).

Other prospects: OL/DL Kaleb Nichols, QB EJ Sambrano, RB/DB Eliberto Lopez, RB/LB Joseph Lopez, FB/LB Ivan Carcamo, RB/DB Matthew Montoya, WR/DB Isaiah Kinsey, DE/TE Isaac Perez.

2025 notes: The Wolves only district loss was to Poth, and they played the Pirates closer than any other team in the district. Dilley expects another successful season with speed in the backfield and an experienced line on both sides of the ball. Jonathan Eguia, Ramirez, Osio, Suarez, Castaneda, Milo Eguia and Torres will provide depth on the OL. Jonathan Eguia, Ramirez and Torres will also play on the DL. The Wolves need to find a QB to get the ball to Garcia and Gonzales.

KARNES CITY BADGERS (315)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 16/17. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 6-4/3-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Israel Soto (5-10, 175, 4.5), QB Savon Nixon-Thompson (6-2, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Logan Lopez (5-10, 250, 5.1), LB Brock Wood (5-10, 170, 4.7), K Pedro Serna (5-9, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL/DL Max Contreras.

2025 notes: The Badgers hope their overall experience will be enough to end a playoff drought stretching back to 2021. They return their top playmakers in RB Soto (677 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and QB Nixon-Thompson (1,240 yards, 12 TDs passing; 609

yards, 9 TDs rushing) to lead an offense with a majority of their starters returning. The defense will seek more consistency behind LB Wood (39 tackles, 1 sack, 1 INT) and DL Lopez (23 solo tackles, 1 sack).

NATALIA MUSTANGS (345)

Coach: Jason Reynolds. Lettermen R/L: 19/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: QB Leo Buentello (5-9, 182, 4.8), RB/DB Zack Peralta (5-9, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Damian Aguinaga (5-8, 165, 4.6), RB/DB Andrew Monreal (5-8, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Mosses Leija (5-9, 185, 4.7), LB/HB Hunter Corona (5-8, 205). Top juniors: OL/DL Lukas Bonenberger (6-0, 290), WR/DB Maddox Corker (5-10, 170).

Other prospects: WR/DB Mason Giera, RB/DB Joseph Yanes, OL/DL Pilar Valadez, WR/DB Juan Gonzales, DL/TE Ethan Rodriguez.

2025 notes: The Mustangs struggled in Reynolds' first season as coach, but return 18 of 22 starters and most of the coaching staff from last season. Last year's squad, including 11 sophomores, will benefit from the experience. QB Buentello (766 yards, 5 TDs passing; 461 yards, 12 TDs rushing) will be a key to the offense's success. The defense yielded 40 points or more in seven games and must improve on the line.

NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS (287)

Coach: Paul Kirby. Lettermen R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Eric Rodriguez (5-11, 175, 4.7), FB Garett Gonzales (5-11, 210, 4.8), DL/TE Jaylun Rodriguez (6-0, 225, 4.9), TE/DL Julian Amaya (5-11, 210, 5.0), OL Cash Davis (6-3, 290, 5.5), RB/DB Joe White (5-7, 145, 4.5).

2025 notes: The Mustangs goal of breaking a two-year playoff drought is a possibility with the return of a large group of starters. The defensive front led by Jaylun Rodriguez and Davis figures to be one of the strengths of the team. QB Eric Rodriguez and FB Gonzales will be counted on for their leadership along with sophomore RB White. The biggest concern is depth at the skill positions.

POTH PIRATES (287)

Coach: Jeff Luna. Lettermen R/L: 20/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 12-1 regional semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Major Luna (6-0, 180, 4.7), RB Kane Stover (5-11, 170, 4.6), WR/DB Antonio DeHoyos (5-9, 150, 4.8), OL Brady McClure (5-10, 220, 5.3), TE/LB Koy Moczygemba (6-1, 170, 4.8), DB Ethan Kopecki (5-10, 165, 4/8). Top juniors: LB/TE Walker Stevens (5-11, 175, 4.9), RB/DB Dean Carriger (5-6, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/DB Jacob Clark, OL/DL Wyatt Blandford, LB/OL Jaden Kotara, DL Gavin Neville, OL/DL Mason Delgado, LB Lucas Trevino.

2025 notes: Poth has not lost a district game since 2016 and expects the streak to continue this

District 15-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Major Luna, Poth

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Jonathan Eguia, Dilley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. Poth | 5. Nixon-Smiley |
| 2. Dilley | 6. Karnes City |
| 3. Cotulla | 7. Natalia |
| 4. Stockdale | 8. San Antonio YMLA |

season. The Pirates have few starters returning, but have tested players at key positions. QB Luna (2,680 yards, 34 TDs passing; 3 TDs rushing) broke the school record for single-season passing yards. RB Stover (1,226 yards, 18 TDs rushing; 524 yards, 6 TDs receiving) was the district newcomer of the year. DeHoyos will play WR and in the secondary. A key will be rebuilding the OL around McClure.

SAN ANTONIO YMLA LIONS (244)

Coach: Andrew Campos. Lettermen R/L: 16/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 2-8/1-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Mason Pena (6-2, 175, 4.7), LB Yaniv King (5-8, 195, 4.8), LB/RB/TE Anthony Amires (6-0, 185, 4.6), LB Aidan Garcia (5-7, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: DB Brandyn Michael Richardson (5-7, 155, 4.7), LB Jonas Castro (5-7, 160, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL Carlos Suarez (5-10, 210, 5.3).

Other prospects: RB/DB Dazzel Moore. 2025 notes: Campos is the Lions' new head coach after a June promotion from defensive coordinator. YMLA is counting on its lines to improve from last season. Younger players will have to step up to be better than the team that scored one touchdown or less in six games last season. LBs King (71 tackles, 1 sack) and Amires (21 tackles), and DB Garcia (19 tackles, 3 INTs) will lead the defense.

STOCKDALE BRAHMAS (274)

Coach: Shawn Alvarez. Lettermen R/L: 16/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Coy Gann (6-3, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Gabe Hernandez (5-11, 252, 5.1), RB Ricky Ayala (5-7, 165, 4.7), RB/DB Trenton Gordon (5-6, 154, 4.6), OL Jacob Martinez (5-10, 245, 5.0), DB Trey Miller (5-9, 170, 4.9). Top sophomore: LB Klayton Arnold (5-11, 185, 5.0).

Other prospects: OL John Baca, DE Jamarrie Greene.

2025 notes: The Brahmans made the playoffs in Alvarez's first season, and he expects a repeat. Alvarez is still teaching his system, but the return of a number of starters helps greatly. Gann played RB alongside Ayala, but could line up at a number of positions. Ayala will also play defense.



Austen GORDON
FB/DB
Prairiland



Regin WALLACE
WR/DB
Daingerfield



Ripken BIRDWELL
QB/LB
Hooks



David JACKSON
OL/DL
Queen City



Zane BOURQUE
ATH
Arp



Rhett BOYD
OL
Buffalo



DeJuan JOHNSON
QB
New Diana

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

RECRUITING
CLASS 3A

CLASS 3A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BANQUETE BULLDOGS (294)

Coach: Joe Rios. Lettermen R/L: 16/14. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 3-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB JD Gomez (5-9, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Tyler Fox (6-1, 265, 5.4), RB Abraham Chapa (5-9, 150, 4.4), RB Tyler Landreth (5-8, 150, 4.4), RB Blas Villarreal (6-1, 160, 4.4), OL/DL Bradley Saenz (6-2, 285, 5.3).

2025 notes: Rios, a veteran coach who was OC last year, takes over the big chair, inheriting a team with several experienced players in the backfield. RB Chapa returns and will be aided by speedy backfield mates RB Landreth and RB Villarreal, a state qualifier in track. OL/DL Saenz is big and will pave the way up front alongside OL/DL Fox, while QB Gomez takes over full time behind center. This should be a better team, but how much better?

GEORGE WEST LONGHORNS (262)

Coach: Rod Blount. Lettermen R/L: 16/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: FB/DE Kohen Blount (6-1, 240), RB/LB Cason Campos (5-10, 175, 4.7), RB/DB Spencer Lee (5-11, 165, 4.7), RB/DB Logan Miller (6-1, 175, 4.6), OL Chris Bernal (6-6, 245), OL Wyatt Smith (6-1, 320). Top juniors: TE/DE Kole Freeborn (6-2, 225, 4.8), QB/LB Jaxon Alaniz (5-10, 190, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/LB Dylan Thomisee (5-10, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Cameron Odum, OL/DL Julian Martinez, OL/DL Xavier Sanchez, TE/DE William Balew, QB/DB Cade Peters, TE/LB Blake Alaniz, RB/DB Gavin Medina, TE/DE Damien Ramos.

2025 notes: Blount takes over a Longhorns team coming off their best season in five years and has never missed the playoffs as a head coach. The team will run the Slot-T led by a stable of backs, including FB/DE Blount (1,177 yards, 20 TDs rushing). QB/LB Alaniz returns after a reserve role, but QB/DB Peters also returns from injury. Blount said the front led by OL Bernal, OL Smith and four returners will lead to success.

HEBBRONVILLE LONGHORNS (325)

Coach: R.J. Montalvo. Lettermen R/L: 21/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB R.J. Rodriguez, RB/LB Sonny Trevino, QB Jacob Gomez (6-2, 215), RB/DB Jerediah Gutierrez, RB/LB Mario Martinez, WR/DB Luke Cadena. Top juniors: OL/DL Jeremy Gonzalez, OL/DL Ilias Perez. Top sophomore: RB/LB Alexavier Gutierrez.

Other prospects: OL/DL Jose Diaz, OL/DL Levi Martinez, OL/DL Austin Martinez, OL/DL Alex Gonzalez, WR/DB Jayden Guardian, TE/LB Tony Flores, OL/DL Evan Beltran, WR/DB Albert Pena.

2025 notes: Even employing a young roster last season, Hebbroville made the playoffs for the 12th consecutive season, which includes every year under Montalvo. Now, armed with more experience, Hebbroville expects to be improved. RB/DB Rodriguez and RB/LB Trevino saw playing time as freshmen and QB Gomez started as a sophomore. With explosive players in a stout run game, if Hebbroville can patch some holes with new linemen, Montalvo expects a successful season.

MONTE ALTO BLUE DEVILS (281)

Coach: Fred Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 17/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB Michael Garza, WR/DB Ramiro Vazquez, QB/RB Mateo Rojas, RB Jason Trujillo, OL/DL Zabbid Olvera, OL Manuel Boffill.

Other prospects: QB/DB Noe San Miguel.

2025 notes: The Blue Devils enter the season looking to find their first win since 2019 and Gonzalez said the team's speed will be a big asset. QB/RB Rojas returns and RB Garza is back to bolster the backfield. Garza's ability to read defenses is strong and WR/DB Vazquez has a strong downfield burst to give Rojas a target. QB/DB San Miguel is a promising freshman that could make an impact.

ODEM OWLS (273)

Coach: Armando Huerta. Lettermen R/L: 15/19. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 8-3 bi-district

District 16-3A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

FB Kohen Blount, George West

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE JD Flores, Santa Rosa

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. George West | 5. Taft |
| 2. Santa Rosa | 6. Banquete |
| 3. Odem | 7. Monte Alto |
| 4. Hebbroville | |

finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB John Hinojosa (5-10, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Adrian Ramirez (5-11, 170, 4.6), QB RJ Salinas (6-1, 160, 4.6), TE/DE Jacob Waldorf (6-2, 195, 4.7), OL/DL AJ Gonzales (5-10, 275, 5.2), RB/LB Martin Castillo (5-9, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL JP Garcia (6-0, 250, 5.2).

Other prospects: RB/WR Phillip Flores, TE/DE Tim Rogers, OL Gilbert Pena, OL Brandon Ochoa, OL/DL Dadrion Garza.

2025 notes: The Owls should find success offensively again with RB Hinojosa back (1,350 yards, 28 TDs rushing) along with running mates RB/LB Castillo and QB Salinas (1,350 yards, 10 TDs passing). Odem also returns four starters up front to pave the way, including OL/DL Gonzales. Outside of TE/DE Waldorf (60 tackles, 5 sacks) and WR/DB Ramirez, Huerta said the team will be young on defense and will rely on more players seeing action on both sides of the ball.

SANTA ROSA WARRIORS (306)

Coach: Joe Marichalar. Lettermen R/L: 10/10. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Riley Fonseca (5-8, 145, 4.8), DE/FB JD Flores (5-8, 181, 4.9), WR/DB Damian Lopez (5-11, 154, 4.7), OL/DL Vince Lucio (5-11, 225, 5.3), RB/LB Kaydin Martinez (5-8, 165, 4.9), LB/K Emmanuel Martinez (5-10, 172, 5.4). Top juniors: LB/TE Aiden Contreras (6-0, 170, 5.0), RB/DB Sergio Ramirez (5-11, 132, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/LB Jorge Prado (5-9, 134, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Daniel Cerda, WR/DB Ismael Lopez, OL Jesus Monroy, WR/DB Santos Saldivar, OL/DL Darren Rodriguez, QB/DB Fabian Lopez, OL/DE Robert Ramirez, OL/DL Dustin Perez.

2025 notes: The Warriors and Marichalar are hopeful that experience in the trenches will be the reason they can have another successful campaign. Among the few starters back is QB Fonseca (900 yards, 12 TDs passing; 4 TDs rushing). WR/DB Lopez (234 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will be one of his experienced targets. DE/FB Flores (5 sacks) will aim to lead the defense. If Santa Rosa can mature early, Marichalar expects them to be strong again.

TAFT GREYHOUNDS (258)

Coach: Joe Riojas. Lettermen R/L: 17/7. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 4-6/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Hunter Montemayor (5-11, 195, 4.5), OL Jerry Chien Jr. (5-11, 225), RB/LB Juan Jose Ozuna (6-0, 195, 4.6), WR/DE Christian Ozuna (6-1, 190, 4.6), QB/DE Brandon Suarez (5-9, 200), RB/LB Sergio Leal Jr. (5-7, 155, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Michael Ortiz Jr. (5-8, 170, 4.6), OL Kolby Nieto (6-2, 225). Top sophomore: LB Michael Sturgeon Jr. (5-10, 185).

Other prospects: WR/DB Eric Perez, DB Benjamin Maldonado, OL/DL Michael Mireles, OL Ernie Rodriguez, OL/DL Raul Longoria, QB/DB Ryan Ortiz, WR/DB Francisco Alaniz, WR/DB Timothy Tijerina.

2025 notes: An experienced team worked hard all offseason after a three-way tiebreaker saw them on the outside of the playoffs. While QB is still a position to be figured out, the player that assumes the role will have experienced playmakers in WR/DB Montemayor (765 yards receiving) and RB/LB Leal Jr. (358 yards rushing). Defensively, RB/LB Ozuna (127 tackles) and QB/DE Suarez (4 sacks, 5 fumble recoveries) can wreck games. A hungry team expects to be back in the postseason.



Brett WELLS
RB/LB
Troup



James BARLOW
RB/LB
Warren



Trey ATCHLEY
RB
Blanco



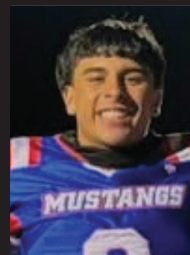
Jaden SPENCE
WR/DB
Thrall



Kale RUSSELL
QB
Tidehaven



Jarvse DICKERSON
QB/DB
Wallis Brazos



Eric RODRIGUEZ
QB
Nixon-Smiley



Major LUNA
QB
Poth

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

3A DIVISION I Columbus

Matt Schobel has won a lot of football games — as a high school quarterback at Columbus, a tight end at TCU, and later in the NFL with the Bengals and Eagles.

But none compare to winning the Class 3A Division I state championship, 48–14 over Malakoff, with his son, Adam, earning Offensive MVP and his nephew, John, taking home Defensive MVP.

“It’s easily my favorite victory I’ve ever been a part of at any level,” Schobel said.

It wasn’t just a family affair — it was for a teammate. The Cardinals dedicated their season to Aleks Medrano, a senior lineman who passed away in October following a seizure. At first, the team struggled with a sense of “What’s the point?” until Medrano’s mother gave them a new one: “You have to kick ass for Aleks,” she told Schobel.

Columbus’s first state title came

against a Malakoff squad riding a 31-game win streak — and the Cardinals delivered from the opening kick.

Adam, a TCU signee, led five first-half touchdown drives, completing 10-of-12 passes for 201 yards and a score to help build a 34–7 lead.

“It was cool,” Adam said of the MVP award, before flashing his gold medal. “But this was the one I cared about.”

The Cardinals’ offensive line — four sophomores and freshman center Weston Krpec — kept Schobel upright and opened lanes for senior back Grayson Rigdon, who rushed for 119 yards and four TDs. Rigdon earned his fourth straight state title after winning three in six-man football.

The defense was just as dominant, adjusting after Malakoff’s opening TD to unleash pressure. The result: six sacks, including three from John Schobel.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — Loaded with talent but with no title history, the Cardinals checked in at No. 2 in *Texas Football*’s preseason 3A Division I rankings.

TURNING POINT — Strangely, it was their lone loss of the year — an overtime defeat to Hitchcock — that made the Cardinals unstoppable.

TEAM MVP — Adam Schobel, the coach’s kid who took the Cardinals’ attack to new heights, earning the Mr. Texas Football Player of the Year

BY THE NUMBERS — **52.3:** Columbus’ points per game average, the best in Class 3A and second-best among all UIL 11-man teams

Columbus’ Road to the Title (15-1)

Columbus 65, Cuero 24
Columbus 63, La Grange 21
Columbus 60, Needville 21
Columbus 62, Madisonville 35

Columbus 49, Bellville 35
Columbus 56, Rogers 8
Columbus 56, Yoakum 38
Hitchcock 37, Columbus 36 (OT)

Columbus 42, Hallettsville 12
Columbus 37, Hempstead 0
Columbus 48, Cameron Yoe 14
Columbus 48, Palestine Westwood 28

Columbus 56, Yoakum 42
Columbus 62, Franklin 42
Columbus 49, Edna 6
Columbus 48, Malakoff 14

3A DIVISION II Gunter

Gunter head coach Jake Fieszel had a simple message for his team at halftime, nursing a 7–0 lead over Woodville: get one big play on offense, defense, and special teams, and they’d win their third straight Class 3A Division II state championship.

He didn’t have to wait long to see it in action. Senior Mitchell Gage took the opening kickoff of the second half 96 yards to the house.

“It was really all the blockers,” Gage said. “All I had to do was run.”

Big play on special teams? Check.

On the next drive, senior quarterback Preston Tarpley hit Cash Rumage for a 59-yard touchdown. Rumage, who finished with two catches for 73 yards and the score, earned Offensive MVP honors.

Big play on offense? Check.

In the fourth quarter, senior Brock Boddie picked off a pass and returned it 62 yards for a touchdown — Gunter’s second non-offensive

TD of the game.

Big play on defense? Check.

The Tigers’ 28–0 win was sealed by Defensive MVP Hayden Farrell, who racked up 11 tackles and three sacks.

“Our senior class just willed us to a bunch of victories this year, especially through the playoffs,” Fieszel said.

But it wasn’t just the big moments. After Gunter started 1–2 — its first regular season losses in two years — Fieszel worried the run might be over. The seniors kept it together.

“We talk about it a lot: protect the brotherhood,” said senior captain Garrin Goetz. “Look at the guy next to you and know you’ve got his back.”

The title mirrored Gunter’s 2024 journey: a shaky start turned around by senior leadership. The road may have been bumpier — but the destination stayed the same.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — The two-time defending state champs felt like the team to beat, starting No. 1 in *Texas Football*’s preseason 3A Division II rankings.

TURNING POINT — Getting past a dangerous Wall team in the state semifinals felt like the biggest hurdle for the Tigers.

TEAM MVP — Preston Tarpley, the quarterback who patiently waited his turn to run the offense and developed with the team as the season wore on.

BY THE NUMBERS — **23:** Gunter became just the 23rd team in UIL Texas high school football history to win three consecutive state titles.

Gunter’s Road to the Title (14-2)

Gunter 23, Houston Kinkaid 14
Anna 55, Gunter 28
Celina 38, Gunter 7
Gunter 49, Sanger 7

Gunter 42, Bells 6
Gunter 69, Callisburg 0
Gunter 65, Howe 7
Gunter 52, Blue Ridge 21

Gunter 49, Sadler S&S Consolidated 0
Gunter 63, Leonard 0
Gunter 48, Cedar Hill TLC
Gunter 45, Wichita Falls City View 14

Gunter 44, Jacksboro 14
Gunter 33, Holliday 7
Gunter 42, Wall 32
Gunter 28, Woodville 0

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 3A

Class 3A SEASON IN REVIEW

2024 TSWA CLASS 3A ALL-STATE TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Adam Schobel, Columbus

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: John Schobel, Columbus

COACH OF THE YEAR: Matt Schobel, Columbus

First-Team Offense

OG Logan Kilcrease, Franklin
OG Daniel Weidner, Poth
OG Devonte Marshall, Jefferson
OT Nick Wallace, Daingerfield
OT Cutter Smith, Lexington
OC Luke Bullard, Gunter
WR Dequane Prevo, Liberty-Eylau
WR Brayton Fisher, Columbus
TE Quandre Coates, Anahuac
QB Adam Schobel, Columbus
RB Kamran Williams, Jefferson
RB Grayson Rigdon, Columbus
RB Jason Tennyson, Malakoff
FB Jayden Jackson, Franklin
AP Markeylin Batton, Atlanta
AP Jachen Duran, Tidehaven
K Preston Tarpley, Gunter

First-Team Defense

DL Tavion Hunter, Woodville
DL Hayden Farrell, Gunter
DL Ayden Hamilton, New Diana
DL Rome Rivera, Anderson-Shiro
LB Wyatt Davis, Canadian
LB John Schobel, Columbus
LB Parker Poteete, Malakoff
LB Tate Morgan, Llano
DB Julian Dominguez, Canadian
DB Braylen Harris, Edna
DB Cannon Valenzuela, Jacksboro
DB Carter Balak, Gunter
DB Myles Randle, Edna
P Kohl Collins, Fairfield
UT Brock Boddie, Gunter
KR Jaiydyn Johnson, New Diana

Second-Team Offense

OG Caden Gonzalez, Goliad
OG Marcus Herrera, Canadian
OT Hudson Braden, Wall
OT Albert Ruben III, Hitchcock
OC Andrew Adams, Malakoff
OC Colton Hurst, Idalou
WR Camden Capehart, Winnsboro
WR Camdon Pitchford, Columbus
TE Preston Carroll, Grandview
QB Mike Jones, Malakoff
RB KJ Porter, Newton
RB Tyson Johnson, Winnsboro
RB Corey Austin, Van Vleck
FB Austen Gordon, Prairiland
AP Kayden Wherry, DeKalb
K Leonardo Quezada, Rio Hondo

Second-Team Defense

DL Hunter Buehring, Edna
DL Ashton Daily, Woodville
DL Kamden Sanchez, Canadian
DL Malcolm Simpson, Hitchcock
LB Jaythan Hyder, Woodville
LB Samuel Oakland, UC Randolph
LB Jaythan Traylor, Woodville
LB Bryce Sliva, Tidehaven
LB James Studley, Malakoff
DB Wade Stallones, Franklin
DB Rene Farias, Rio Hondo
DB Kenny Mosley, Daingerfield
DB TJ Galvan, Tidehaven
P Jasper Crain, Hooks
UT Steele Skinner, Holliday
KR Jayvion White, Academy



Photo Credit: Troy Pope

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 3A PLAYOFF RESULTS

DIVISION I

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Shallowater 63, Brownfield 0; Peaster 33, Comanche 30; Amarillo River Road 23, Lamesa 21; Vernon 28, Sweetwater 9; Tuscola Jim Ned 38, Iowa Park 20; Dalhart 56, Denver City 0; Paradise 47, Clyde 0; Bushland 70, Kermit 6; Region II: Pilot Point 36, Mexia 32; Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 57, Commerce 35; Palmer 41, Whitney 32; Winnsboro 42, Atlanta 21; Malakoff 62, Tatum 13; Maypearl 45, Pottsboro 37; Jefferson 53, Mineola 27; Grandview 54, Whitesboro 17; Region III: Palestine Westwood 42, Hardin 33; Columbus 48, Cameron Yoe 14; Fairfield 49, Orangefield 42; Yoakum 47, Troy 28; Franklin 48, Hallettsville 6; Diboll 28, East Chambers 21; Hitchcock 42, Little River-Academy 3; Teague 36, Coldspring 14; Region IV: Llano 48, Crystal City 14; Orange Grove 26, San Diego 21; Marion 46, Jourdan 14; Goliad 63, Bishop 16; Edna 63, Lyford 0; San Antonio Cole 56, Ingram Moore 42; Rio Hondo 52, London 20; Universal City Randolph 59, Hondo 39. **AREA** – Region I: Shallowater 41, Peaster 21; Vernon 28, Amarillo River Road 7; Tuscola Jim Ned 35, Dalhart 7; Paradise 21, Bushland 17; Region II: Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 57, Pilot Point 7; Winnsboro 48, Palmer 7; Malakoff 70, Maypearl 7; Jefferson 61, Grandview 18; Region III: Columbus 48, Palestine Westwood 28; Yoakum 56, Fairfield 26; Franklin 31, Diboll 14; Hitchcock 56, Teague 14; Region IV: Llano 34, Orange Grove 6; Goliad 56, Marion 28; Edna 47, San Antonio Cole 0; Universal City Randolph 46, Rio Hondo 31. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Shallowater 22, Vernon 7; Paradise 10, Tuscola Jim Ned 7; Region II: Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 56, Winnsboro 49; Malakoff 31, Jefferson 21; Region III: Columbus 56, Yoakum 42; Franklin 35, Hitchcock 21; Region IV: Llano 30, Goliad 29; Edna 42, Universal City Randolph 28. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Paradise 33, Shallowater 15; Region II: Malakoff 35, Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 0; Region III: Columbus 62, Yoakum 42; Region IV: Edna 41, Llano 14. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Malakoff 27, Paradise 19; Columbus 49, Edna 6. **STATE FINAL** – Columbus 48, Malakoff 14.

DIVISION II

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Canadian 53, Muleshoe 6; Coahoma 49, Odessa Compass 21; Idalou 54, Tulia 6; Stanton 49, Alpine 28; Crane 42, San Angelo Grape Creek 26; Littlefield 72; Friona 36; Wall 74, Anthony 6; Childress 27, Slaton 24; Region II: Tolar 49, Millsap 14; Bells 44, Blooming Grove 0; Holliday 85, Dublin 7; Blue Ridge 72, Rice 21; Gunter 48, Cedar Hill TLC 0; Wichita Falls City View 53, Clifton 0; Scurry-Rosser 26, Leonard 24; Jacksboro 54, Brady 27; Region III: Grand Saline 68, Hooks 27; Woodville 49, Arp 12; De Kalb 64, Lone Oak 22; Troup 35, Anderson-Shiro 6; New Diana 43, New Waverly 21; Daingerfield 35, Gilmer Harmony 14; Newton 60, West Rusk 24; Edgewood 54, New Boston 28; Region IV: Van Vleck 48, Blanco 41; Cotulla 50, Santa Rosa 7; Tidehaven 24, Thrall 6; Dilley 47, Odem 35; Poth 57, Hebronville 6; East Bernard 35, Rogers 7; George West 21, Stockdale 17; Lexington 38, Rice Consolidated 27. **AREA** – Region I: Canadian 63, Coahoma 35; Idalou 52, Stanton 14; Littlefield 59, Crane 0; Wall 49, Childress 14; Region II: Tolar 21, Bells 0; Holliday 42, Blue Ridge 34; Gunter 45, Wichita Falls City View 14; Jacksboro 62, Scurry-Rosser 34; Region III: Woodville 48, Grand Saline 21; De Kalb 40, Troup 34; Daingerfield 42, New Diana 35; Newton 84, Edgewood 42; Region IV: Van Vleck 35, Cotulla 14; Tidehaven 56, Dilley 14; Poth 15, East Bernard 13; Lexington 76, George West 0. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Canadian 27, Idalou 21; Wall 56, Littlefield 21; Region II: Holliday 46, Tolar 20; Gunter 44, Jacksboro 14; Region III: Woodville 42, De Kalb 12; Daingerfield 62, Newton 28; Region IV: Tidehaven 42, Van Vleck 20; Lexington 50, Poth 27. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Wall 49, Canadian 3; Region II: Gunter 33, Holliday 7; Region III: Woodville 40, Daingerfield 7; Region IV: Tidehaven 35, Lexington 21. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Gunter 42, Wall 32; Woodville 27, Tidehaven 21. **STATE FINAL** – Gunter 28, Woodville 0.



CLASS 2A

West Hardin quarterback Marcus Hashaw unleashes a pass during the Oilers' bi-district playoff bout against Lovelady. After going winless in 2023, the Oilers made the playoffs in 2024 — and hopes are high that the upward trend continues.

Photo by Julie Isbell

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HIGH SCHOOL

Class 2A Cover Boy **HD DAVIS**

WOLFE CITY'S HOMEGROWN HERO

BY CARTER YATES

In the first game of his sophomore season, HD Davis shattered a Wolfe City school record with 43 carries for 451 yards and six touchdowns. The previous record holder? His father, Heath.

The Davis family has lived in Wolfe City — 68 miles northeast of Dallas — for longer than Heath can even trace back. He once had a strong argument for being the best athlete in both the family and the school's history. That is, until that night. But their postgame embrace wasn't some symbolic passing of the torch. Heath had already known for years: HD had a fire in his belly that burned hotter than anything he ever had.

"I've never really been around anyone like him, to be honest, being so dedicated to football," Heath said. "He's just crazy about it."

Heath admires the drive his son shows. He never pressured HD to play. In fact, when HD first asked about trying football, Heath told him plainly that it was hot, it hurt, and it wasn't for everyone. But HD was undeterred. Within his first pee-wee season, he told his dad he was going to play college football. Heath, trying to temper expectations, gave a measured response: "Take it one step at a time, boy. You've got a long way to go."

Now he blinks, and here it is. HD rushed for 2,769 yards as a junior — second-most in the state of Texas — and earned District 6-2A Division I Offensive MVP honors. Along the way, he picked up college offers from Kansas State and UTEP.

Wolfe City's offense is old-school: almost exclusively runs between the tackles. And HD thrives in it. He combines sprinter speed—he's run a 10.7 in the 100-meter dash—with a punishing attitude that says the ball carrier should be the one delivering the blow, not absorbing it. That mindset showed itself early. He broke his collarbone during a sophomore year game and kept playing for seven more snaps before realizing something was wrong. After missing eight weeks, he returned and racked up more than 1,000 yards in just five games.

Head coach Brad Smithey calls HD a mini celebrity in Wolfe City, population 1,454. Kids in pee-wee jerseys swarm him after games. As much as HD loves the sport, he's never been entirely comfortable with the spotlight. The time he could spend soaking in attention is spent grinding in the shadows. His offseason routine is borderline absurd: 18 holes of golf starting at 7 a.m., weightlifting, baseball practice in the afternoon, and then

running the track until nearly 6:30 p.m.

That work ethic has inspired Smithey to blast HD's HUDL film across social media.

"When you see somebody put in the amount of time and work that he does, for me to go above and beyond sharing his film is easy—because there's nobody more deserving," Smithey said. "He works for it. He wants it. It's not just something he says he wants to do; it's something he's going to do."

Where some players might coast once the college offers start coming in, HD has mashed the gas. He's on a mission. Wolfe City's 2024 season ended with a stunning first-round playoff loss: a 40–35 upset to a Coleman team that started the year 0–7. After falling behind early, Wolfe City

was forced to throw 43 times—completely out of character for their offense.

"It's definitely a memory I carry with me through every offseason workout," HD said. "Just never letting that happen again."

Wolfe City is historically a .500 program, with an all-time record of 465–463–31. The 2025 team is trying to break through the ceiling. The Wolves have never advanced past the third round of the playoffs. But they've also never had HD Davis in the backfield.

"He knows it ain't over yet," Smithey said. "He still has to go out and prove himself every day. All this has done is put a bigger target on his back. But the thing about him is — he's up for the challenge."

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HD DAVIS

The Wolfe City superstar ran for 2,789 yards and 31 scores in a record-smashing junior season in 2024, averaging 10.4 yards per carry.

Photo by Lisa Tisdale

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A STATE RANKINGS

DIVISION I

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 REFUGIO Bobcats have speed on the edges; can they develop up the middle?	11-2	5/5
2.	 GANADO Defending champs face a reset, but they don't lack for confidence	15-1	2/3
3.	 WASKOM Wildcats bring back a solid core, especially in the backfield	10-3	6/6
4.	 GARRISON A lot to like about these Bulldogs, even with youngsters in key spots	9-3	7/6
5.	 STAMFORD After title game heartbreak, can the Bulldogs reload?	15-1	2/6
6.	 PANHANDLE The Panthers might have the right combo of size and speed	10-2	8/7
7.	 MARLIN Nothing complicated about these guys: defense and run game	10-4	6/7
8.	 HONEY GROVE Ryelan Morris gives the Warriors a true gamebreaker	12-2	6/5
9.	 POST Antelopes surprised folks last year; they were a year early	13-1	7/7
10.	 JOAQUIN From fourth place to the state semis, doubt the Rams at your peril	10-5	6/6
11.	 DELEON New coach Brennan Whitaker takes over a veteran squad	7-5	9/8
12.	 MASON Can the Punchers adapt after a surprising coaching change?	11-2	2/3
13.	 HAMILTON The surprise team of 2024 is no fluke; they're a threat again	14-1	6/6
14.	 AXTELL Getting QB Levi Leathers back from injury is huge	12-2	4/4
15.	 WOLFE CITY HD Davis is approaching TXHSFB folk hero status	8-3	9/8
16.	 CORSICANA MILDRED The Eagles doubled their win total from '23 to '24	12-1	5/5
17.	 CENTERVILLE The front line starters are terrific; can they develop depth?	9-2	6/9
18.	 WEIMAR The trajectory of the program is pointing up	7-5	7/7
19.	 HAWLEY 62 wins in the last five years for the Bearcats	10-2	6/5
20.	 SHELBYVILLE The Dragons have everything it takes, if they can find a QB	10-3	7/10
21.	 CISCO Defense will carry the load early while the offense develops	8-5	6/8
22.	 FRANKSTON The Indians are a threat in Region II thanks to the skill players	8-4	8/7
23.	 TIOGA A slew of multi-year starters give them an edge	9-3	4/7
24.	 SUNRAY A special senior class graduated; can the Bobcats reload?	12-1	2/2
25.	 COOPER This team is fast and mean; the defense will strike you	7-5	5/6

DIVISION II

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 MUENSTER Hornets start in pole position with solid core from the title team	14-2	6/6
2.	 SHINER The Comanches only lose five lettermen from a state finalist	12-4	6/6
3.	 BREMOND Team speed puts them on the short list of title contenders	12-3	8/11
4.	 ALBANY Denney Faith's boys are back, in a big way	9-3	7/9
5.	 GRUVER Expectations are through the roof up in the Panhandle	14-1	6/8
6.	 WINK Last year was supposed to be a rebuild; now, they're ready	11-2	9/7
7.	 COLLINSVILLE Could the Pirates have the most dangerous offense in 2A?	12-2	8/8
8.	 WINDTHORST Three-year starting QB Brock Belcher leads the charge	11-2	9/8
9.	 LOVELADY A strong group of underclassmen give these Lions bite	9-3	6/5
10.	 ROPES The Eagles' skill depth is impressive by 2A DII standards	12-2	6/6
11.	 GRAPELAND From two wins to 10 in 2024, the Sandies trajectory is steep	10-4	8/5
12.	 JUNCTION This senior class is special, helping to double their win total in '24	12-2	6/7
13.	 STRATFORD Injuries bit the Elks last year, but youngsters got good reps	7-4	7/8
14.	 FALLS CITY A Region IV stalwart eyes a return to the top	8-4	7/7
15.	 MART It's a new era for the Panthers as Chris Lancaster takes over	9-3	6/8
16.	 MOUNT ENTERPRISE You read that right: the Wildcats return 20 starters!	9-4	10/10
17.	 GOLDTHWAITE The Eagles won more games in '24 than the last two years combined	7-5	6/6
18.	 GRANGER Keep an eye on the O-line — if it develops, the Lions are a threat	9-4	7/8
19.	 LINDSAY QB Lane Foster is a wizard running their option attack	8-4	8/6
20.	 WELLINGTON The Skyrockets will be thin, but have key playmakers	9-3	5/5
21.	 IRAAN Braves are fresh off their first 10-win season since 2018	10-2	8/8
22.	 BRACKETTVILLE A second year under coach Kody Yeager could be huge	7-4	7/8
23.	 OVERTON A ton of production graduated, but the defense should hum	10-3	7/8
24.	 WHEELER After the best season in years, Mustangs hungry for more	9-3	7/9
25.	 BURTON It's been a slow climb, but the Panthers look ready to pounce	6-5	8/7

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A **PREVIEW**

SMALL SCHOOLS, HUGE FIREWORKS

BY GREG TEPPER

What is in the water in some of Texas' smallest towns?

Don't worry: we're not implying a public utility crisis. Quite the opposite — it is instead a commentary on the star power in Class 2A, the UIL's smallest 11-man classification. For a group of schools whose enrollments top out at 253 students, the sheer amount of playmakers and dynamic athletes make them feel much bigger.

For coaches, it'll mean headache after headache in game prep. For fans? Fireworks.

In Division I, the Refugio Bobcats are riding a five-year state championship drought. That may not seem like much for most of the programs in the state, but in Refugio County, it's an eternity — it's the longest stretch since 2006 to 2010. But there's good news for the long-suffering Bobcats faithful. With a solid core returning, including versatile athlete Ray Lewis and defensive stalwart Zander Wills, the Bobcats look like the team to beat in 2A Division I, and start atop our state rankings.

Region I feels fairly wide-open, and each contender has clear questions to answer. Stamford is the reigning state finalist, but the Bulldogs got walloped by graduation and must replace nine starters on offense. Panhandle boasts perhaps the best returning player in the region in quarterback Broxton Robinson, yet may struggle with depth. Post's surprising run to the regional final puts them on a shortlist of contenders, but they must replace 2A's leading rusher in the departed Ian Vergara.

Speaking of mysterious, Region II! It was Hamilton that emerged from the pack with a genuinely inspired state semifinal run, and the Bulldogs welcome back about half of last year's team. But there's plenty of squads nipping at them, and plenty of star power to deal with — DeLeon quarterback Heston Jobe, Axtell signal-caller Levi Leathers (back from injury), Wolfe City's jaw-dropping running back H.D. Davis, Mildred's versatile back Trent Harris. There are few free passes here.

Speed has traditionally been the calling card for Region III, and this year should be no different, with Waskom, Garrison and Honey Grove each brimming with quickness and making up the upper echelon of contenders. But lest we forget who won this region last year — Joaquin, which finished fourth in its district before advancing to the state semifinals. The Rams a threat again, but moreso, they're a cautionary tale for those who claim to know what the future holds.

Refugio's path to AT&T Stadium runs through Region IV and the defending state champion Gannado, which rode a special senior class to its first

title. That team is largely gone, but Josh Ervin's instilled a culture that will keep them in the hunt in 2025 and beyond. Marlin also looms as a threat, especially if its pass game develops.

In the smallest 11-man division, it's hard not to start where it ended last year: Muenster. The reigning 2A Division II state champion welcomes back many of the key playmakers from that title team — most especially quarterback Casen Carney. Though there are pieces to replace especially in the trenches, the Hornets begin the year as the favorite to go back-to-back.

Out west in Region I, Gruver's skill talent will be difficult to deal with — quarterback Briggs Satterfield led the Greyhounds to the state semifinal last year and looks poised to do it again. But Wink has plans of its own, especially centering around box-office running back Kemyd Faciane. And don't forget about upstart Ropes, who will have relatively strong depth for Division II, and Stratford, which begins life without all-everything star Bryce Braden.

Muenster starts in the pole position in Region II, but it won't be easy. After a relative step back by its standards in 2024, Albany looks poised for

a return to the big stage, and having legendary coach Denney Faith on the sideline is quite an X-factor. Collinsville is hoping a second year with electrifying quarterback Jaxon Jenkins gets them over the hump, and Windthorst — just a few years removed from a title of its own — welcomes back 17 starters from an 11-win team.

Region III is in the midst of a reset, most notably because Mart — the longtime prohibitive favorite — has fallen back to the pack. Now Chris Lancaster takes over for the retired Kevin Hoffman, with eyes on getting the Panthers back to the top. It won't be easy, though — Bremond is absolutely loaded for bear, with Tank Scott both leading the running game and anchoring a defense that returns every starter from a state semifinalist. Lovelady, too, is a threat — linebacker Lane Wilson is a tackling machine.

Coming off a near-miss in the title game, Shiner starts as the favorite to win Region IV; running back Quincy Jones and quarterback Jake Simper form a potent one-two punch. If anyone's to dethrone the Comanches, it might be Junction, which ran to the regional final last year behind quarterback Chasen Doyal, who returns for his fourth year as a starter.

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Broxton **ROBINSON**

The Panhandle quarterback accounted for more than 3,300 total yards in a spectacular junior season, and has eyes on even more as a senior.

Photo by James Michael Abel

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A



Casen Carney | MUESTER QB

Photo Credit: Hardy Burnett



Brysen Maxwell-Steele | MARLIN DL

Photo Credit: JD Bryant

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 2A? Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB



Mount Enterprise RB **KAEGAN ASH** battled through injuries last year...and still ran for nearly 2,000 yards. He's the state's active career rushing yards leader at 6,820.

Photo Credit: Romie Sartors



Anson tight end **MALACHI ST. JOHN** is a matchup nightmare — the 6-foot-5 playmaker caught 17 touchdown passes as a sophomore last season.

Photo Credit: Brandon McAniff

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 2A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

QB Casen Carney, Muenster
RB HD Davis, Wolfe City
RB Jordan Prince, Beckville
WR Chad Davidson, Collinsville
TE Garrett Hess, Muenster
TE Camden Ables, Hawley
OL Jose Gonzalez, Shelbyville
OL Jarrell Wright, Centerville
OL Jack Sinclair, Panhandle
OL Max Kolar, Windthorst
OL Cayson Merz, Thorndale
UTIL Ryelan Morris, Honey Grove
K Isiah Smith, Collinsville

Defense

DL Taegan Pimpton, Stamford
DL Jackson Graves, Wheeler
DL Brysen Maxwell-Steele, Marlin
LB Zander Wills, Refugio
LB Kaden Riker, Ropes
LB Clancy Osbourn, Mason
LB Tank Scott, Bremond
DB Logan Bures, Ganado
DB Jake Simper, Shiner
DB Brody Brown, Overton
DB Darius Jones, Stratford
KR Brandon Kennedy, Elysian Fields
P Brady McCullough, Lovelady



Kurt Habarth | GRUVER

Photo Credit: Carter Pyle

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 2A, the top four teams in each district make the playoffs. They are then placed in their respective bracket, either Division I or Division II.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: Stamford over Panhandle

Region II: DeLeon over Hamilton

Region III: Waskom over Garrison

Region IV: Refugio over Marlin

DIVISION II

Region I: Gruver over Wink

Region II: Muenster over Collinsville

Region III: Bremond over Lovelady

Region IV: Shiner over Junction

STATE CHAMP: REFUGIO

The Bobcats have the skill players, the speed, the defense and — most importantly — the pedigree to add another title to their name.

STATE CHAMP: MUESTER

Casen Carney, Garrett Hess, Nolan Peel and a sturdy group of battle-hardened seniors get the Hornets their second straight crown.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 3-2A DI

The Ozona-Sonora battle for the district title is one thing; the four-way fight for the final two playoff spots will be just as wild.

DISTRICT 12-2A DI

This group of teams in the greater Brazos Valley always seems to produce a surprise or two; who is it this time?

DISTRICT 6-2A DII

Windthorst is your favorite here, but the other six North Texas teams are going to beat up on each other.

Class 2A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

TIMPSON

Remember them? After a rebuilding year, the Bears are back in a big way.

LA VILLA

The Cardinals are coming off four straight district titles and look hungry for more.

ROSCOE

New coach Dan Loyd inherits a loaded squad; if they adapt to the new staff, they're a threat.

SPEARMAN

The Lynx were better than their 4-7 record indicated in '24; now they have 19 starters back.

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

HIGHLAND PARK HORNETS (224)

Coach: Ty Stout. Letterman R/L: 16/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Israel Arana, QB Josh Marler, RB/LB Thomas Phan, LB Alberto Olivias, OL/DL Dryden Prichard, WR/DB Tristan Kovar.

2025 notes: Year 2 was a definite setback for Stout after a rising first year as the Hornets head coach. Stout is optimistic Year 3 will be a turnaround with nine starters back on both sides of the ball. QB Marler (1,032 yards) brings stability and leadership to the offense after making strides as a junior. WR/DB Arana (380 yards) gives Marler a target and is a force in the secondary.

PANHANDLE PANTHERS (199)

Coach: Dane Ashley. Letterman R/L: 16/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Broxton Robinson (6-1, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Gavan Brookshire (5-11, 245, 5.1), OL/DL Jack Sinclair (6-1, 260, 5.3), WR/DB Caden Armes (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL/DL Diego Montoya (6-7, 298, 5.5), RB/LB Lukas Purcell (6-2, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Jarret Moore (6-5, 287, 5.6), WR/DB Landen Andrews (5-8, 135, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/DB Tyler Wood, OL/DL Logan Leisher, OL/DL Jacob Herzberg.

2025 notes: Panhandle returns a very strong group and a team hungry after a second-round exit in 2024. QB Robinson (2,090 yards, 20 TDs passing) is a valuable leader and three-year starter who is just as good on the defensive side as he is on offense. The line has plenty of size with OL Brookshire, Sinclair, and Montoya all returning. Armes (722 yards, 11 TDs receiving) is the top outside threat coming back for the Panthers.

SANFORD-FRITCH EAGLES (236)

Coach: Brandon Bennett. Letterman R/L: 25/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Rocky Ferguson (5-8, 175), QB/DB Ethan Beltran (6-0, 165), WR/DB Drayton Renville (6-1, 170), OL/DL JR Bowen (5-9,

205). Top juniors: OL/DL Aidan Anderson (5-11, 220), RB/LB Noah Applegate (5-10, 185).

2025 notes: Bennett is in his first season hoping to rebuild the Eagles program. His foundation begins in the weight room and preparation in practice to get ready on Friday nights. RB Ferguson is a dependable captain to point the Eagles in the right direction, as is QB Beltran, who will be in his second full season under center. WR/DB Renville and OL/DL Bowen were dependable players with even bigger roles expected this year.

SPEARMAN LYNX (205.5)

Coach: Brandon Reagan. Letterman R/L: 13/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/10. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Hudson Swan (5-9, 155), OL/DL Amos Beck (5-11, 190), OL/DL Hector Delgado (5-7, 240), RB/DB Jailen Vasquez (5-7, 160), WR/LB Landon Sonnenberg (6-2, 185), RB/LB Brayson Goodheart (5-9, 165), OL/LB Vladimir Caro (5-7, 162), RB/DB Dallen Scroggs.

2025 notes: A talented young group was given plenty of experience last season; now they're veterans. QB Swann (305 yards, 7 TDs rushing) was one that solidified himself as the season went on and has even more expectation on his shoulders this year. With the loss of JP Carbajal in the backfield, RB Vasquez (390 yards) is going to be called upon to carry the load for a run-heavy Lynx squad.

SUNRAY BOBCATS (188)

Coach: Wes Boatman. Letterman R/L: 6/16. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 12-1 regional semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Mason Gray (6-1, 255, 5.2), QB/DB Ezekiel Grajeda (6-1, 175, 5.0), RB/LB Kolten Simmons (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Ethan Balderrama (6-2, 220, 5.2), WR/DB Christian Saucedo (5-8, 155, 4.8), TE/DL Jacob Mares (6-1, 205, 4.9), WR/DB Dominic Dominguez, WR/DB Adam Amaya, OL/DL Xzavier Cardenas, RB/LB Isaac Mendoza.

2025 notes: The Bobcats will look completely different than previous years. Only six lettermen

ABERNATHY ANTELOPES (228)

Coach: Justin Wiley. Letterman R/L: 11/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jake Harkey (6-2, 255, 5.2), OL/LB Ryan Hillis (6-0, 235, 4.9), WR Darrion Duvall (5-11, 155, 4.5), QB Jagger Wiley (6-1, 185, 4.8), WR Dre Minfield (6-0, 160, 4.6), RB/LB Kolt Micheletti (5-10, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Zephaniah Torrez (5-9, 145, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Case Heinrich (5-10, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: LB Malachi Walters, LB Eduardo Perez, WR/LB Kaidyn McWhirter-Flores, WR/LB Isaac Reyes, TE/LB Braylon Stafford, RB/DB Josiah Scott.

2025 notes: The Antelopes are going to have depth at the skill positions. QB Wiley (2,162 yards, 20 TDs passing) had a strong sophomore year and is looking for big things as a junior. Surrounding the signal-caller are wide receivers Duvall (660 yards, 6 TDs receiving) and Minfield. The offensive line is a question mark due to graduation, but Wiley is optimistic that Harkey and Hills pick up the slack.

FLOYDADA WHIRLWINDS (209)

Coach: J.R. Compton. Letterman R/L: 14/10. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB John Paul Lopez (5-10, 165, 4.7), LB Logan Gutierrez (5-7, 150, 4.9), OL/DL Jerald Henderson (5-9, 180, 5.3), OL/DL Christian Contreras (5-7, 161, 4.9), OL/DL Jakob Deochao (5-8, 155, 5.1), OL/DL Andrew Delgado (5-9, 253, 5.2). Other prospects: OL/LB Brody Hughes.

2025 notes: Compton welcomes back a plethora of players returning on both sides of the trenches. OL/DL Henderson, Contreras, Deochao and Delgado bring back a veteran line. The skill players are where Floydada has to develop, but RB Lopez (291 yards) impressed last year with bigger expectations this season.

NEW DEAL LIONS (232)

Coach: Matt Hill. Letterman R/L: 20/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Dallas Sumner (6-0, 195, 4.7), RB/LB Jones Rodriguez (5-10, 190, 4.7), LB Dalton Martin

(5-10, 190, 4.6), OL Mason Rodriguez. Top juniors: WR/DB Josiah Mendoza (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Colt Ramsey (6-0, 195, 4.9), WR/DB Ray Alonzo, RB/DL Nash Ginn, OL/DL Michael Beck, OL/LB Heath Chenault, OL/DL Kolten Marin, OL Nathan Anderson, TE/DL Tristen Bigham.

2025 notes: The Lions suffered a setback after missing out on the postseason last year. The goal now is to get this squad back to the postseason with the help of a core group of experience. QB Sumner (701 yards, 6 TDs passing) returns from injury and is a leader on this team. RB/LB Rodriguez (461 yards) is the workhorse and LB Martin (141 tackles) is the captain New Deal needs on defense.

NEW HOME LEOPARDS (192)

Coach: Jon Ward. Letterman R/L: 15/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Colby Cook (6-2, 205, 4.7), RB/LB Ryder Starkey (6-1, 190, 4.7), WR/LB Parker Liles (5-11, 180, 4.8), QB/LB Brayson Beck (5-7, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Keaton Bullard (6-0, 250, 5.1), RB/LB Hunter Burrell (5-11, 200, 4.7), WR/DB Lincoln Preston (5-8, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Haden Brumley.

2025 notes: New Home took a step back last season but was still able to make the playoffs. The goal is always much higher with the strong sense of community and rapid growth. The outside isn't a problem. WR Cook is a playmaker as is RB Starkey, WR Liles and QB Beck. The challenge for New Home will be overcoming a relative lack of size up front.

OLTON MUSTANGS (202)

Coach: James Dougherty. Letterman R/L: 14/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Fabian Gutierrez (5-9, 185, 5.0), OL Chris Cabrera (6-2, 270, 5.4), RB Isaiah Ruiz (5-6, 165, 4.9), DL Keon Brown (5-10, 240, 5.1), QB Brady Azam (6-4, 180, 4.7), WR/DB Manny Carrasco (5-10, 145, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Zayden Falcon (5-8, 160, 5.0), OL/LB Emmitt Nelson (6-0, 185, 4.8).

2025 notes: QB Azam is one of those hoping to fill a void after playing a backup role last year. RB/LB

District 1-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Broxton Robinson, Panhandle

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Mason Gray, Sunray

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Panhandle | 5. Ama. Highland Park |
| 2. Sunray | 6. Sanford-Fritch |
| 3. Spearman | |
| 4. Stinnett West Texas | |

return from a team that won 24 games with five playoff victories over the past two seasons. Sunray also has to replace the state's all-time leading passer in Armando Lujan. Filling those shoes is QB Grajeda (290 yards), who did play well in a limited backup role last year. Sunray must find playmakers, but will have experience up front with OL/DL Gray and Balderrama returning.

WEST TEXAS COMANCHES (183)

Coach: Jeff Smith. Letterman R/L: 15/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Cayde Winters (5-8, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Jasper Rippetoe (5-10, 180, 4.6), OL Deacon Smith (6-7, 340, 5.6), LB Kooper Hernandez (6-0, 190, 4.9), RB Kelby Sherwood (6-0, 195, 4.9), OL Ty Buck (6-4, 275, 5.2). Top juniors: DB Landon McNabb (5-7, 155, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL Kolsen Cassidy (6-0, 200, 5.0).

2025 notes: Expectations are as high as they've been in a long time for West Texas. QB Winters (1,704 yards, 31 TDs rushing) is a dual-threat that can single-handedly take over a game. Complementing Winters is WR Rippetoe (384 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and RB Sherwood. There is plenty of size in the trenches to pave the way with OL Smith and Buck.

Gutierrez (264 yards) is a three-year starter and just as valuable on defense. RB Ruiz (642 yards) was the team's top rusher last season and a leader for the Mustangs. DL Brown (22 tackles) controls the middle with his size.

POST ANTELOPES (247)

Coach: John Wright. Letterman R/L: 18/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 13-1 region finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL Mason Wright (5-10, 230, 5.0), DB Max Cole (6-0, 170, 4.6), QB Landyn Garcia (6-0, 155, 4.6), WR Draven Gonzales (6-0, 170, 4.7), LB Colton Hawkins (5-10, 175, 4.8), LB Luca Perez (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR Sean Ramos (6-1, 180, 4.5), DL Daniel Carroll (6-3, 200, 4.8), OL Olegario Gomez (6-0, 295, 5.1), RB Randon Curtis, OL Aiden Rodriguez, OL Alek Garcia.

2025 notes: Momentum is definitely on the side of Post after a run to the state quarterfinals. Thanks to 14 returning starters, the optimism remains high under Wright for another big year in 2025. Up front, OL Wright returns to anchor a very good unit. QB Garcia (1,891 yards passing) had a record-setting sophomore season and will be in his second year as a starter. WR Gonzales (500 yards) and Ramos are Garcia's go-to on the outside.

District 2-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Landyn Garcia, Post

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Jake Harkey, Abernathy

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Post | 5. Olton |
| 2. Abernathy | 6. Floydada |
| 3. New Home | |
| 4. New Deal | |

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CHRISTOVAL COUGARS (195)

Coach: Tanner McLean. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: DE Colt Floyd (6-2, 190), OL/DL Ethan Lee (5-10, 300), WR/DB Isreal Bogs (5-10, 160), WR/DB Kelton Gibbs (5-11, 180), RB/LB Jace Cobb, WR/DB Kanin Green, QB/LB Ty Debusk (5-8, 165), RB/LB Haiden Davis, RB/LB Keegan Dean, TE/DE Kash Joiner.

2025 notes: The Cougars find themselves with a new head coach for the first time in almost a decade, but McLean should fit right in after leading the Comanche defense last year. McLean installed a power spread offense and will use a variety of looks on defense to keep opposing teams off-balance. He takes over a squad that has a good core group of players.

COLORADO CITY WOLVES (248)

Coach: Daniel Mejia. Lettermen R/L: 14/14. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 2-8/O-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Andrew Goodney (5-10, 305), OL Jase Garcia (6-0, 275), OL/DL Aiden Wooddell (5-9, 242), LB Mikell Martinez (5-10, 180, 4.9), LB Noah Atkinson (5-9, 160, 4.9), OL Kenny Hearin (5-11, 275), WR/DB Jadon Reyna (5-8, 145), DL Les Paul Gomez (6-0, 340), QB Ace Mejia (5-10, 145, 4.7), WR/DB Davin Lara, OL Curtis Lyndsey, TE/DL Julian Gomez.

2025 notes: The Wolves might have one of the biggest offensive lines in West Texas — they'll average nearly 290 pounds and all five projected starters can squat at least 500 pounds. While OLs Goodney and Garcia bring athleticism to the front, it's OL/DL Wooddell that is the strongest kid in the football program. His strength will be the backbone to Colorado City's size advantage.

FORSAN BUFFALOES (234)

Coach: Casey Thompson. Lettermen R/L: 12/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-8/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Hayden Bowlin (5-10, 170, 4.5), OL/LB Jack Nichols (5-10, 205, 5.0), RB/LB Oscar Holguin (5-6, 150, 4.9), QB Coy Evans (6-0, 172, 4.7), WR/DB Colt Stockton (5-9, 160, 4.9).

2025 notes: Thompson took over the Buffaloes in the early spring and brings a wealth of knowledge in special teams with him. His first team in Forsan is loaded with returning talent and had several sophomores play key roles last fall — namely QB Evans, RB/LB Holguin and WR/DB Stockton. Senior WR Bowlin, who is a state qualifier in track, will get the ball in the open field.

OZONA LIONS (232)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 25/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Christian Villarreal (6-2, 205, 4.8), OL/DL Jacoby Ramos (5-9, 220, 5.1), TE/LB JP Garza (5-8, 180, 5.0), OL Alex Mata (6-3, 251, 5.3), RB/LB Nolan Martinez (5-7, 165, 5.0), OL/DL Sergio Almaguer (6-3, 223, 4.9).

2025 notes: Despite running a spread offense, the Lions love to feed RB Villarreal (1,438 yards, 17 TDs rushing) and attack opposing defenses in that way. Villarreal is a bruising back that looks for contact and usually cannot be stopped by just one defender. Four-year starter OL/DL Ramos gives Ozona size on the line and is a team leader. TE/LB Garza is the heart and soul of the defense and is another four-year starter.

REAGAN COUNTY OWLS (215.5)

Coach: Kyle Brown. Lettermen R/L: 15/16. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Omrie Johnson (5-10, 165, 4.5), DL Elijah Huerta (5-10, 210, 4.9), DB Ezgar Vasquez (5-8, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Sergio Salazar (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Dominic Johnson (5-10, 185, 4.7), WR/DB John Hodge (5-8, 145, 4.6), WR/DB Caison Graves (5-10, 160, 4.7), RB/LB Hector Rios (5-8, 155, 4.6), QB Marquis Vargas, OL/DL Andrew Lopez, OL/DL Kellan Saucedo, OL/DL Ian Cortez, DB JJ Jimenez, TE/DB Levi Martinez, TE/DE Kaden Galindo.

2025 notes: WR Omrie Johnson, WR/DB Dominic Johnson and WR/DB Hodge are all entering the

District 3-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Christian Villarreal, Ozona

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Elijah Huerta, Reagan County

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Ozona | 5. Christoval |
| 2. Sonora | 6. Colorado City |
| 3. Reagan County | |
| 4. Forsan | |

year looking to become the go-to guy on offense as Reagan County looks for junior QB Vargas to develop chemistry with the trio. Reagan County's depth along the offensive and defensive lines stands to be a team strength as the year gets underway.

SONORA BRONCOS (199)

Coach: Blake Weston. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Aaron Segura (5-9, 145, 4.7), RB/LB Jose Guerra (6-1, 190, 4.7), TE/DE Evan Arredondo (6-4, 240, 4.9), ATH David Luna (5-7, 150, 4.5), RB/LB Acea Gomez (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR/LB Angel Diaz (5-9, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Jayden Welborn (6-2, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Axel Botello (5-7, 240, 5.0), WR/LB Armani Coronado (5-9, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Conner Gil, OL/DE Hayden Masters, OL/DL Lane Perez.

2025 notes: After starting 10 games as a sophomore, QB/DB Segura is being counted on to become a team leader in 2025 for the Broncos. RB/LB Guerra (102 tackles) is transitioning to the offensive side of the ball. When Sonora looks to pass, TE/DE Arredondo gives Segura a big target to look for in the middle of the field. Weston will also look to use ATH Luna in a variety of offensive roles.

ABILENE TLC EAGLES (185)

Coach: Steven Ward. Lettermen R/L: 20/4. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/O-5 district.

Players to watch: LB Ladinian Boalts (5-5, 170, 4.8), RB Devan Jones (5-6, 135, 4.6), RB/DB Joe Boalts (5-7, 145, 4.8), FB/DL Hayden Ward (5-8, 195, 4.9), WR/DB Manuel Rios (5-8, 140, 4.8), QB/DB Alejandro Becerra (5-11, 145, 4.8), OL Will Hardin (5-8, 210, 5.1), OL Josiah Mendoza (5-10, 260, 5.3), DL Ethan Ward (5-8, 175, 4.8), QB/DB Ezekiel Saldana, RB/DB Klavon Kirven, FB/LB Johnny Zapata, TE/LB Dekota Morris-Porres, TE/DL Marik Cole, RB/DB Galen Privitt.

2025 notes: The Eagles will be stronger and mentally tougher this year after a good offseason, but their youthfulness will show again. They'll be inexperienced at several key positions, including under center. QB/DB Becerra and QB/DB Saldana will compete for the role of leading the offense.

ANSON TIGERS (207.5)

Coach: Kyle Wheeler. Lettermen R/L: 14/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: TE Malachi St. John (6-5, 190, 4.8), RB/LB Ethan Lozano (5-9, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Alex Lozano (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Alijah Lozano (5-10, 210, 5.1), OL/DL Hayden Parker (5-10, 220, 4.9), WR/DB Mario Barrera (5-10, 165, 4.5), Branson Rister (5-4, 145, 4.9), OL/DL Alex Garza (5-9, 200, 5.1), RB/LB Samuel Wilburn (5-9, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Colton Sharples, OL/DL Cole Estes, WR/LB Avery Lozano, QB/LB Brody Hall.

2025 notes: New coach Wheeler, promoted from OC, inherits a team with tons of team speed. TE St. John gives the Tigers a sizeable threat in the pass game while brothers Avery, Alex and Alijah Lozano, along with their cousin Ethan Lozano, bring a family atmosphere that permeates the program.

CISCO LOBOES (243)

Coach: Kevin Stennett. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-5 region semifinalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Cody Gayle (5-9, 175,

4.6), OL/DL Layton Busby (5-8, 240), OL/DL Case Williams (5-11, 205), FB/DL Noaa Hernandez (5-11, 195, 4.9), TE/LB Carson Cochran (6-1, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Garrett Offutt (5-10, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Carter Toof (6-1, 170, 4.8), FB/LB Hudson Hernandez (5-9, 165, 4.8), QB/LB Colby McIlroy (5-10, 170, 4.7), WR/LB Cannon Harris, RB/LB Fabian Silva, QB/DB Owen Kilpatrick, WR/DB Adam Bennett, OL/DL Tyler Steele, OL/DL Javier Briseno, WR/DB Braden Moore, OL/DL Tyler Moore.

2025 notes: RB/DB Gayle is going to play a featured role in the backfield in addition to leading the secondary. OL/DL Busby is a dominant force on the offensive line who had 65 knockdowns as a junior. QB/LB McIlroy wore many hats as a freshman and Stennett expects him to battle for the starting QB job.

HAWLEY BEARCATS (214)

Coach: Mitch Ables. Lettermen R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Camden Ables (6-4, 210), RB/LB John Doerschuk (6-0, 190), WR/DB Aiden Romo (5-8, 155), WR/DB Braylen Williams (5-9, 150), DE Hunter Hudson (6-1, 190), OL/DL Bode Trojcek (6-1, 220), OL Bo White.

2025 notes: Prior to Ables' arrival in 2014, the Bearcats had only made the playoffs three times in school history. He's led them to the postseason in all 11 years that he's led the program. Despite taking their hits from graduation, the Bearcats are poised to keep that streak alive with the field-stretching abilities of ATH Ables and WR/DB Romo.

OLNEY CUBS (215)

Coach: Chris Tobola. Lettermen R/L: 25/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Jamaricus Collins (5-8, 160, 4.6), QB/DB Tucker Cortinez (6-1, 160), OL/DL Peyton Bedford (6-0, 245), WR/DB Juan Castillo (6-0, 165), RB/LB Ricco Sandoval (5-7, 170), WR/DB Shareginald Williams (5-7, 135), RB/DL Kanton Rodgers (5-11, 160), WR/LB Damian Hernandez (5-5, 135), RB/LB AJ Solano (5-8, 155), OL/DL Kanin Beavers, OL/DL Jacobi Esquivel, K Ariel Ramirez, OL/DL Jacob Gallardo.

District 4-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Braden Jimenez, Stamford

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Camden Ables, Hawley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Stamford | 5. Olney |
| 2. Hawley | 6. Abilene TLC |
| 3. Cisco | |
| 4. Anson | |

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BALLINGER BEARCATS (242)

Coach: Bryan Gayoso. Lettermen R/L: 22/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Drew Knickerbocker (6-0, 220, 4.8), WR/DB Manny Gonzalez (5-8, 145, 4.5), QB/DE Kyson Burtleson (6-2, 210, 4.7), RB/LB Aiden Pena (5-10, 180, 4.6), WR/DB Hunter Kresta (6-4, 180, 4.7), TE/DL Landon Cornutt (6-2, 200, 4.8), WR/LB Dylan Page (5-10, 160, 4.8), OL/DL Josh Martinez (6-0, 260, 4.9), RB/LB Pierson Nord (5-11, 150, 4.6), WR/DB Coleman King, OL/DL Miguel Avila, WR/DB Leo Rangel, RB/LB Kaiden Medrano.

2025 notes: New coach Gayoso takes the head coaching role; he was an assistant last year. OL/DL Knickerbocker is the ultimate workhorse on both sides of the football, while WR/DB Gonzalez is the leader of the secondary.

BANGS DRAGONS (243)

Coach: Colton Buzzard. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Cason Tidwell (5-10, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Conner Bible (6-2, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Kian Kelly (6-2, 190, 4.9), QB/LB Hunter Withers (5-9, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Damian Hudspeth (6-2, 205, 5.1), RB/LB Eliseo Rivas (5-10, 160, 4.9), RB/LB Jaxon Duncan (5-10, 170, 5.0), OL/DL Roy Duran (5-9, 220, 5.5), TE/DE Heath Laughlin (6-1, 190, 5.2), RB/DB Rex Guerrero, RB/LB Michael Parrott, WR/DB Braxton Wommack, RB/DB Jackson Edmisten, OL/LB Kason Klutts, TE/DL Joaquin Rubio, OL/DL Kristopher Kelly, OL/DL Bryce Schoen.

2025 notes: Having only been in the job since April 2024, Buzzard has been working to change the mindset of those in the program. RB/LB Tidwell and WR/DB Bible both played pivotal roles on defense last fall and are expected to help lead Bangs' Wing-T offense.

COLEMAN BLUECATS (232)

Coach: John Elder. Lettermen R/L: 12/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 4-8 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Braden Torres (5-11, 175), FB/LB Paul Salas (5-11, 210), OL/DL Easton Meador (6-0, 215),

RB/LB Chantz Adams (6-0, 195), QB/DL Hunter Edington (6-4, 180), OL/DL Darren Hurtado (6-0, 190), OL/DL Corbin Rosales (5-11, 230), WR/DB Brady Elder (5-10, 150), WR/DB Jadin Smith, OL/DL Gio Villanueva, TE/LB Micah Lackey, WR/DB Lane Bowers, WR/DB Braylen Stewart.

2025 notes: The Bluecats have the potential to be the first team in school history (dating to 1910) to win a playoff game in five consecutive years. QB/DB Torres is back from a broken hand and will take over the offense from QB/DL Edington.

DELEON BEARCATS (204)

Coach: Brennan Whitaker. Lettermen R/L: 19/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Heston Jobe (6-1, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Eli Garza (6-2, 218, 4.8), WR/DB Max Jones (5-10, 150, 4.5), WR/DB Bryce Burkeen (5-9, 180, 4.7), WR/DB Jake Cooper (6-1, 185, 4.7), OL/DL Gage Heinz (6-0, 210, 4.9), WR/DB Trent Zmeskal (5-9, 170, 4.7), DB Harley Pinckard (6-0, 150, 4.7), RB Lane Couch (6-1, 200, 4.7), LB Adan Salinas.

2025 notes: Whitaker officially took over the program in late April and inherits a squad that has a four-year starter in QB Jobe with first-team all-district choices in OL/DL Garza and WR/DB Jones. The defensive side of the football also features an abundance of talent with WR/DBs Burkeen and Cooper in the secondary and OL/DL Heinz anchoring the front line.

HAMILTON BULLDOGS (249)

Coach: Ryan Marwitz. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 14-1 state semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Halston Haile (5-10, 180), WR Pierce Summers (6-6, 185), OL/DL Mills Mehaffey (6-1, 265), TE/DE Colter Johnson (6-2, 195), QB/DB Carson Roberts (6-3, 180), WR/DB Dixon Kellner (6-0, 175), WR/DB Colton DeLaGarza (6-2, 185), OL/DL Vanden Phillips (6-0, 210), OL/DL Zeb Murphree (6-1, 225), OL/DL Payden Dickerson, OL/DL Henry Ivey, OL/DL Luke York, RB/LB

2025 notes: The Bulldogs will rely on their defensive experience as they look to defend their district title. Among those veterans are DBs David (135 tackles, 4 INTs) and Arrington (3 INTs), who make the secondary a strength.

TOM BEAN TOM CATS (192)

Coach: Blaine McBride. Lettermen R/L: 19/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 6-4/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Donnie Hooten (6-3, 175, 4.9), OL/DL Treyshaun West (6-2, 290, 5.3), RB/LB Dallas Peavey (5-11, 165, 4.7), WR/LB Ryan Dearmond (5-5, 125, 4.8), WR/DB Dyson Farris (5-10, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Carter Mayo (5-11, 190, 5.1), Cain Pearson (5-10, 150, 4.8), TE/LB Jacob Lind, WR/DB Dyson Farris, WR/DB Maguire Poole, OL/DL Payton Evans, WR/DB Chase Stratton, OL/DL Anthony Secreto.

2025 notes: McBride goes from OC to head coach as the Tomcats try to take the next step and end a five-year playoff drought. LB Peavey (101 tackles) and OL West are coming off first-team all-district performances.

TRENTON TIGERS (203)

Coach: Josh Shipman. Lettermen R/L: 12/9. Starters returning O/D: 3/8. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Nolan Yowell (6-0, 180, 4.9), RB/DB Jayden Keys (5-10, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Ethan Greer (5-9, 155, 4.7), TE/LB Wyatt Davis (6-5, 185, 4.8), TE/LB Zach Phifer (6-6, 190, 4.7), Landry Bowman (5-10, 160, 4.7), RB/DB Alex Miller, RB/LB Colten Carrol, OL/DL CJ Poff, OL/DL Tony Machaka, OL/LB Kyland Allison. 2025 notes: With eight starters returning, the Tigers will hang their hat on defense as they look to end a one-year playoff hiatus. Outside linebacker will be a strength with Davis and Phifer providing size on the edge.

WHITELIGHT TIGERS (243)

Coach: Charlie Roten. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Zayden Prieto (5-10, 238), RB/LB Andrew Reeves (5-9, 168), WR/DB Noah Savage (5-10, 158), OL/DL Xander Hall (6-3, 241), TE/LB Cale Clark, WR/DB Jett Henley, OL/DL Chris

District 5-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Heston Jobe, DeLeon

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Halston Haile, Hamilton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. DeLeon
2. Hamilton
3. Coleman
4. Ballinger
5. Hico
6. Bangs

Cooper Turner, WR/DB Devin Eanes.

2025 notes: After making the deepest playoff run in school history, the Bulldogs enter this fall with the tools to repeat the performance as RB/LB Haile (1,044 yards, 18 TDs rushing) returns to run behind a powerful offensive line. Hamilton also features depth at different skill positions from WR Summers, WR/DB Kellner and TE/DE Johnson.

HICO TIGERS (182)

Coach: Britt Hart. Lettermen R/L: 12/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 5-5/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Tyler Jackson (6-0, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Cade Wilson (5-9, 225, 5.0), RB/LB Tyler Hunt (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Rafael Lentine (6-2, 235, 4.8), WR/DB Michael John Scheufele (5-10, 150, 4.8), OL/DL Garlon Ogle (6-0, 235, 5.0), OL/DL Gage Brumblow (6-2, 255, 5.2), WR/DB CJ Holt, QB/DB Tyler Rainwater, LB/DB Heath McClean, OL/DL Tyler McClean, TE/LB Noah Wade, WR/DB Austin Russell, WR/DB Jayden Rice, RB/LB Jovan Ruiz.

2025 notes: Hart has a career winning percentage of .697 in nine years as a head coach. While the Tigers are not the biggest, strongest or fastest team, Hart expects their work ethic to help them overcome that.

Flores, RB/DB Ian Jordan, WR/DB Austin Baio.

2025 notes: New coach Roten, the former Rogers head man, takes over. The strength should be in the middle, with hard-hitting players like OL/DL Prieto and pounding RB/LB Reeves. Can skill players emerge?

WOLFE CITY WOLVES (225)

Coach: Brad Smith. Lettermen R/L: 19/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB HD Davis (6-0, 205, 4.5), WR/DB Brennon Russell (6-0, 165, 4.6), QB Noah Adams (6-7, 230, 4.9), OL Santiago Marquez (6-3, 270, 5.0), LB Chris Herron (5-9, 165, 4.7), TE/DL Judd Northcutt (6-2, 230, 4.7), OL/DL Jase Williams (6-4, 280, 5.0), WR/DB Casen Pessel (5-9, 155, 4.7), WR/DB Rustic McElwath (6-0, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Daniel Guillen, RB/LB Jory Young, OL/DL Nicholas Nowak, DL Brody Gardner, OL/DL Daniel Garcia, RB/DL Bladen Creed, TE/LB Tyler Howey, RB/LB Austin Bongratz.

2025 notes: The Wolves will once again be contenders revolving around RB Davis (2,789 yards, 33 TDs rushing), who holds multiple D-I offers. Another key senior is WR/DB Russell, who led the Wolves in receiving and tackles.

District 6-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB HD Davis, Wolfe City

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Jake David, Tioga

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Wolfe City
2. Tioga
3. Alvord
4. Whitewright
5. Tom Bean
6. Nocona
7. Trenton

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

ALVORD BULLDOGS (236)

Coach: Matt Fanning. Lettermen R/L: 24/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Dalton George (6-2, 195, 4.8), RB Zane Fuentes (5-7, 175, 4.5), TE/DL Zane Smith (6-3, 225, 4.7), OL/DL Kasyn Davis (6-3, 290, 4.9), WR/DB Brayden Clark (5-10, 148, 4.5), LB Kamper Barnes (5-7, 170, 4.8), OL Matthew Gonzales (5-7, 245, 5.0), Jaxon Simmons (6-0, 230, 4.9), RB/DB Cutter Hamilton, K/LB Callum Taylor.

2025 notes: Fanning is a title-winning coach who expects to have the Bulldogs in the thick of the 6-3A race during his first year. QB George (1,650 yards, 15 TDs passing) is a three-year starter with a strong arm.

NOCONA INDIANS (234)

Coach: Jeff Hill. Lettermen R/L: 14/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Brody Langford (5-10, 150, 4.7), RB/DB Jax Fuller (6-1, 160, 4.8), RB/LB McCrae Crossen (5-8, 155, 4.8), ATH Jayce Lehde (5-10, 140, 4.7), RB/LB Walker Murphey (5-10, 175, 4.9), WR/DB Juve Rodriguez (5-9, 145, 4.9), RB/LB Jessie Gomez (5-8, 150, 4.9), OL/DL Tripp Acker (6-2, 285, 5.9), DL Logan Gaston (6-0, 200, 5.1), RB/LB AJ Malone, OL/DL Payton Wilson, OL/DL Hunter Nail, OL/DL Levi Love, OL/DL Lincoln Phipps, RB/DB Manny Resendiz, RB/LB Colten Anglin.

2025 notes: A rash of injuries forced Nocona to play tons of underclassmen; new coach Hill, promoted from his OC spot, hopes the experience pays dividends. Langford returns at QB after a broken collarbone.

TIOGA BULLDOGS (234)

Coach: Zach Birdwell. Lettermen R/L: 16/16. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jake David (6-0, 165), WR Greeley McAden (5-11, 180), WR/DB Justin Arrington (5-11, 160), OL Cooper Fisher (6-1, 240), OL Bryson Bradley (6-0, 240), DB Caden Downing (5-11, 155), LB Jaxton Dejermett (6-2, 175), QB Cole Boyd (6-1, 165), OL Jesus Enriquez (5-7, 250), RB Jonathan Hernandez, WR/LB Kyson Kirkland, DB Hayden Roberts, LB Raul Chavez, OL/DL Caleb Moncrief, OL/DL Ricky Norris, WR/DB Jaxson Hurst.

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

AXTELL LONGHORNS (216)

Coach: Craig Horn. Lettermen R/L: 12/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 12-2 regional finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Levi Leathers (6-4, 190, 5.0), TE/LB Ethan Porter (6-2, 190, 5.0), ATH AJ Fetsch (6-2, 170, 4.9), DL Hayden Cunningham (5-10, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Noah Reyes (6-0, 190, 5.1), DB Korbin Tucker.

2025 notes: Axtell has benefited from strong positional size the past three years, going 30-6 in that span. But the Longhorns may lack that same size and playmaking speed in 2025 as they look to build on a fourth-round playoff appearance. QB Leathers returns from injury.

BOSQUEVILLE BULLDOGS (221)

Coach: Reggie Patrick. Lettermen R/L: 21/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Dax Pharris (5-7, 160), WR/LB Camp Youens (6-0, 210), OL/DL Jonathan Arias (5-7, 230), RB/LB Cooper Clements (5-9, 190), OL/LB Jaiden Mejia (5-10, 185), OL/DL Noah Krienke, LB/WR Evan Guerrero, DB/WR Brody McNamara.

2025 notes: Bosqueville buzzes with confidence after a three-win jump last season. The Bulldogs aim for their first playoff berth since 2022, led by strong senior leadership. Depth remains a concern, but they believe they can compete for a district title in 7-2A DI.

DAWSON BULLDOGS (196)

Coach: Bryan Kelley. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Brant Boatright (5-9, 165, 4.7), OL Michael Cano (5-9, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Hayden Langenegger (5-9, 205, 5.1), DL/TE Cain Williams (6-0, 190, 4.7), WR/DB Kane Funderburk (5-10, 180, 4.6), TE/DL Casey Larramore (6-0, 210, 4.9), OL/DL Addison Dungan (5-10, 200, 4.8), RB/DB Evan Javier, LB/WR Holden Clark, WR Chace Thomas, LB James Selman.

2025 notes: Dawson's success will hinge on QB Boatright (1,034 yards, 11 TDs passing; 759 yards, 11 TDs rushing), who is set for a big senior season. He

has capable weapons, but the offensive line remains a question mark.

ITALY GLADIATORS (191)

Coach: Mike Loveless. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 7-4 2A DI bi-district finalists/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Eric Solis (5-10, 210, 4.8), RB/DB Raul Acosta (5-10, 160, 4.5), DB Tristan Camacho (5-10, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Kaelynn Cockran (5-11, 155, 4.5), OL/DL Braydon Enriquez (6-0, 185, 5.2), QB/LB Tripp Slovak (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL/LB Landon Johnson, OL Grayson Jones, OL/DL Garrett Lennon.

2025 notes: Italy is coming off back-to-back seven-win seasons but must find another gear in 2025. While speed is a concern, the Gladiators will rely on a tough, hard-working group. Keep an eye on RB/LB Solis (353 yards, 2 TDs rushing; 60 tackles, 2 sacks) and RB/DB Acosta (343 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 49 tackles, 2 INTs).

ITASCA WAMPUS CATS (202)

Coach: Matt Fonville. Lettermen R/L: 23/7. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Gavin Wood (5-10, 205, 5.1), OL/DL Grant Tidwell (6-0, 215, 5.4), RB Christian Enriquez (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Xavier Aguilar (5-11, 275, 5.3).

2025 notes: Itasca looks to regroup under new coach Fonville — fresh off the Corsicana staff. LB Wood (40 tackles), who had a strong 2023 before an ACL injury in 2024, returns to anchor a defense that struggled last fall. Several key players return, including three-year starter OL/DL Tidwell.

RIO VISTA EAGLES (244.5)

Coach: Matthew Woodard. Lettermen R/L: 19/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Kaiden Scott (6-3, 4.9), LB/TE Anthony Zepeda (6-1, 4.8), RB Bryson Yaden (5-11, 4.7), WR/DB Tate Conley (6-0, 4.7), OL/DL Kaden Morris (6-2,

OL/DL Aydan Lewis, RB/LB Michael Bryant.

2025 notes: Finding necessary pieces up front on both sides of the ball is a top priority, but the Indians are loaded at the skill positions with hopes of making another playoff run. WR/DB Donnell (480 yards, 9 TDs rushing; 39-915 yards, 8 TDs receiving; 4 INTs) can do it all, and Holladay is primed for another big season. QB Bizzell is back under center for the Indians.

KERENS BOBCATS (193)

Coach: Brent Watkins. Lettermen R/L: 14/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-6 region semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: LB/TE Isaiah Carter (6-1, 200, 4.8), OL/DL Kooper Hill (6-0, 215, 5.0), QB/LB Isaiah Jordan (6-2, 200, 4.6), RB/DB D'Mari Payne (5-6, 155, 4.5), DB/WR D'Majia Allen (5-10, 150, 4.6), LB Isaiah Massey (5-11, 180, 4.6), DL/TE Jadarrius Peters (6-0, 210, 4.9), WR/DB Malaki Williams, DB/WR Jaci Rooks, RB/DL Julius Brown, OL/DL Colton McFadden, OL/DL Jaizean White, OL/DL Jon Hernandez.

2025 notes: The Bobcats bring back a ton of talent from a team that played 13 games in 2024, and help should also come from an eight-win JV team. LB/TE Carter is a leader on and off the field and DL Hill is a motor player who made a living in the opponent's backfield. DB Allen has a nose for the ball and doesn't miss tackles.

MILDRED EAGLES (248)

Coach: Jeff Callahan. Lettermen R/L: 16/9. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 12-1 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Trent Harris (5-10, 182, 4.5), DL Barron Tatum (6-0, 211, 4.8), QB Luke McKendree (5-10, 179, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Wyatt Firth (5-10, 152, 4.7), OL/DL Noah Lueck (6-3, 202, 5.0). Top sophomore: QB/LB Caleb Harper (5-9, 147, 4.9), OL/DL Joseph Centeno, OL/DL Ezra Garcia, WR/DB Mason Huffman, WR/DB Layton Wing, RB/LB Collin Slizoski, OL/DL Ethan Crump, WR/DL Paxton Southard, PK Esau Berrum.

2025 notes: Graduation hit the Eagles hard, but solid weapons return — especially on offense — for a team that went from six wins to 12 a year ago. RB Harris (1,312

District 7-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Levi Leathers, Axtell

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Anthony Zepeda, Rio Vistas

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Axtell | 5. Italy |
| 2. Rio Vista | 6. Bosqueville |
| 3. Dawson | 7. Itasca |
| 4. Valley Mills | |

280, 5.4), OL Kash Hutchison, DL/RB Pryce Elms, LB/TE Slate Campbell.

2025 notes: Rio Vista QB Scott (2,715 yards, 28 TDs passing) set school records last year and looks to build on that success. LB/TE Zepeda (111 tackles, 12 TFL, 1 sack) will be a key two-way player. The Eagles have experience but must improve in the trenches and address depth concerns at skill positions.

VALLEY MILLS EAGLES (206)

Coach: Robert Featherston. Lettermen R/L: 16/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Ja'Sean Johnson (5-10, 235, 5.0), WR Jacob Garcia (5-9, 170, 4.7), QB Blayne Griner (5-11, 165, 5.0), WR/DB Andrew Rodriguez (5-11, 150, 4.6), TE Preston Southern (6-2, 180, 4.9), WR/LB Landon Lemaster (5-10, 180, 4.8), DB/WR Bryson Bell (5-9, 155, 4.7), LB Cooper Wolf, OL Ruben Flores, DL Cross Warner, DB Caleb Same, LB Garett Poth.

2025 notes: Valley Mills is building momentum as its athletes embrace the hard work in the weight room and develop skills across multiple sports. With several weapons on offense and an improved defense, the Eagles are confident they'll be stronger in 2025.

yards, 19 TDs rushing; 502 yards, 6 TDs receiving) is a dangerous dual-threat, and QB McKendree (2,127 yards, 20 TDs passing) returns under center. DL Tatum (66 tackles, 7 sacks) leads the defense.

PRICE CARLISLE INDIANS (183)

Coach: Clay Baker. Lettermen R/L: 21/3. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/FS Ivan Garza (5-10, 166, 4.8), QB/LB Antonio Ibarra (5-11, 177, 4.9), RB/LB Elvis Hernandez (5-7, 183, 4.8), WR Dakota Grigsby (6-2, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Joseph Mejia (5-6, 145, 4.7), DB Juan Diaz (5-6, 135, 4.7), DL Jayden Nardoza (5-10, 210, 5.0), OL/DL Bryan Garza (6-0, 205, 5.1), DL/TE Alexander Castleberry (5-11, 210, 5.0), LB Chase Roland, OL/DL Brandon Garza, OL Bryan C. Garza, OL Giovanni Garza, TE/LB Ryder McKamy, OL/DL Jesus Enriquez, DL Cole West, DB Aidan Martin.

2025 notes: Baker, who won 43 games in five seasons at Carlisle, is back with the Indians after spending two years at 4A Henderson. Garza (37-353 yards, 5 TDs; 61 tackles) is a versatile, two-way player and Ibarra (448 yards, 3 TDs passing; 50 tackles) will also play both ways. Hernandez and Grigsby are capable of putting up big numbers.

District 8-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Trent Harris, Corsicana Mildred

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB A.J. Donnell, Frankston

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Corsicana Mildred | 5. Price Carlisle |
| 2. Frankston | 6. Mal. Cross Roads |
| 3. Kerens | |
| 4. Cayuga | |

CAYUGA WILDCATS (187)

Coach: Jacob Magee. Lettermen R/L: 17/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Gunner Douglas (6-3, 190, 4.5), DL Camron Stegall (6-5, 225, 4.7), DB Harris Reynolds (5-10, 170, 4.7), DL Hayden Schranck (5-11, 165, 4.7), LB Trace Sims (6-0, 185, 4.6), QB Kase Dickson (5-10, 160, 4.6), OL Harian Walzel (6-0, 210, 4.7), K/WR Ethan Castaneda (5-9, 150, 4.5), OL Justice Larkin, OL Dylan Crawford, OL Cameron Thompson, OL Emilio Ornelas, WR Kayden Edwards, LB Caiden Lightfoot, DL Keith Winder.

2025 notes: Half of Cayuga's wins came in district play to earn the Wildcats valuable playoff experience. Big things are expected from Douglas (524 yards rushing; 384 yards passing), who is back after playing in only three games due to an injury. DL Stegall, DB Reynolds, DL Schranck and LB Sims return to head up the defense.

CROSS ROADS BOBCATS (194)

Coach: Robby May. Lettermen R/L: 14/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Oliver Tilley (5-10, 180, 4.5), OL/DL Owen Perry (5-11, 230, 4.8), RB/LB Sean Brown (5-10, 190, 4.7), WR/LB Ethan Smith (5-10, 150, 4.7), QB/DB Caiden Lookabaugh (5-10, 165, 4.9), OL/DL JJ Herring (5-10, 220, 5.6), TE/LB Chase Julian.

2025 notes: Youth is a big concern, but May believes the culture is being built and the future is bright. He'll look to seniors Perry and Smith for early leadership while young talent Tilley, Brown, Lookabaugh, Julian and sophomore Herring continue to develop.

FRANKSTON INDIANS (246)

Coach: Paul Gould. Lettermen R/L: 17/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB A.J. Donnell (6-2, 175, 4.5), WR/LB Davis Holladay (6-0, 195, 4.8), QB Carson Bizzell (6-0, 180, 4.8), RB/DB Tristan McCoy (5-10, 165, 4.4), OL/DL Hudson Smith (6-2, 195, 4.7), WR/DB Bradlee Gould (5-9, 165, 4.4), OL/LB Brayden Gray (6-1, 175, 4.6), OL/LB Tucker Palmer (6-2, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Brenson Bacon (6-2, 175, 4.4), RB/DB Brayton Donnell, WR/LB Joseph Allen,

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ALBA-GOLDEN PANTHERS (247)

Coach: Drew Webster. Lettermen R/L: 24/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Mason Smith (6-1, 176, 4.8), QB Sam Olson (5-10, 173, 4.7), WR Boogie Trimble (5-10, 161, 4.6), LB Alex Pfingsten (5-10, 171, 4.7), DL/FB Blake Harris (6-4, 224, 4.8), DL Carter Mason (5-10, 242, 4.8). Top juniors: WR/DB Brett Sutton (5-8, 147, 4.6), OL Simon Ortega (6-3, 258, 4.9). Top sophomore: DB Brady Brewer (6-0, 153, 4.6).

Other prospects: DB Cason Boyd.

2025 notes: The Panthers won five games a year ago, but missed out on the playoffs. Lack of quality depth is a concern, but key pieces do return on both sides of the ball with strong, physical LB Smith (113 tackles) on defense and dual-threat QB Olson (1,168 yards, 11 TDs passing; 489 yards, 8 TDs rushing) on offense. Ortega has started every game his freshman and sophomore seasons, and will once again anchor the offensive line.

BOGATA RIVERCREST REBELS (208)

Coach: Laytner Kennedy. Lettermen R/L: 18/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Lance Taylor, RB Isaiah Hunter, OL/DL Eli Dodd, OL/DL Clayton Grimes, WR/DB Ben Duvall, OL/DL Dante Shears.

2025 notes: The Rebels rode the roller coaster last season, winning five in a row to open the year, losing two in a row, finding the win column three straight times to end the regular season and then falling in the opening round of the playoffs. Offensive production was not a problem, and the return of Dodd, Grimes and Shears up front along with the athletic Taylor and RB Hunter should keep the offensive gears grinding.

COMO-PICKTON EAGLES (222)

Coach: Jeremy Griffin. Lettermen R/L: 20/4. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Quincy Goodwin (5-10, 180), OL/DL Jeremy Flowers (6-2, 275), TE/DL Sean Carpenter (6-1, 210), RB/DB Diego Martinez (5-8, 170), OL/DL Jorge Garcia (5-10, 245), FB/LB Baelin Gillis (5-10, 185). Top juniors: OL/DL David Palacios (5-10, 285), FB/LB Bryan Garcia (5-8, 190). Top sophomore: QB/FS Otto Self (6-0, 160).

Other prospects: RB/LB Manny Martinez, RB/DB Maddix Garvin.

2025 notes: Coach Griffin believes his Eagles are ready to become a dominant team on the line of scrimmage with the return of the entire OL and TE. Goodwin (435 yards rushing) will benefit the most in the team's Slot-T offense along with the return of OL Flowers, TE Carpenter and OL Garcia. FB Gillis will share the load on offense, and Self got valuable playing time as a freshman and flashed great potential.

COOPER BULLDOGS (227)

Coach: Rod Castorena. Lettermen R/L: 16/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: DL/OL Tyler Hoskison (6-4, 210, 5.1), LB/FB Julian Castorena (5-8, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Courion Finney (5-8, 145, 4.60), OL/DL Joshua Scantlan (5-10, 200, 4.9), QB/LB Jase Miller (5-8, 145, 4.7), LB/WR Jase Sneed (6-2, 190, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Peyton Petty (5-10, 220, 5.3); LB/RB Jace Meeks (5-10, 170, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DB Keidron Harmon (6-2, 180, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Bulldogs struggled to find the win column early, but turned things up a notch in district play and earned a couple of playoff chances. Hoskison (83 tackles, 6 TFL, 2 sacks) will also get some offensive reps this season, and LB Castorena (80 tackles) has plenty of experience in big games. Expectations are high for Finney (40 tackles; 733 rushing yards; 236 receiving yards; 7 total TDs), a solid, two-way impact player.

District 9-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Ryelan Morris, Honey Grove

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Tyler Hoskison, Cooper

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Honey Grove
2. Cooper
3. Paul Pewitt
4. Alba-Golden
5. Bogata Rivercrest
6. Quinlan Boles
7. Como-Pickton

HONEY GROVE WARRIORS (221)

Coach: Kyle Little. Lettermen R/L: 16/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Ryelan Morris (5-11, 180, 4.4), QB Jarrmez Daniels (5-10, 170, 4.6), Mason Banker (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Kobe Patt (5-9, 225), OL Luke Bryant (6-3, 200), WR Lane Foster (5-9, 150, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Tre'lyn Bailey (5-10, 170, 4.5), WR Andrew Finney (6-0, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: Cord Butler (6-0, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB Braxton Wiggins, OL/DL Cyrus McMorris, LB Kannyn Hevron.

2025 notes: Depth is a concern, but the Warriors should still be able to move the football. Stanford commit RB Morris (1,871 yards, 30 TDs rushing) did his damage in only seven games, and QB Daniels (793 yards passing; 130 yards rushing) flashed his potential in just five games. LB Banker (161 tackles, 14 TFL) was the league's defensive MVP, and Patt (58 tackles, 9 TFL) earned first-team all-district honors on both sides of the ball.

PAUL PEWITT BRAHMAS (248)

Coach: Jeremy Russell. Lettermen R/L: 13/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB KD Watson (5-8, 170, 4.7), TE/DL Chris Bowsky (6-0, 180, 4.8), RB//DB Tyson Jones (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Yahir Noriega (5-9, 235, 5.2). Top juniors: RB/LB Wooda Betts (5-10, 190, 4.8), RB/DB Cade Nix (5-9, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: TE/LB Brody Hodges (5-8, 155, 5.0).

Other prospects: WR/DB Cruz Zavalla, QB/DB Dakota Zavalla, OL Thomas Walker, TE/DL Kayden Young.

2025 notes: The Brahmas returned to the playoffs after missing the dance for the first time in 15 seasons in 2023. Depth might be an issue, but moving the ball won't be with the return of Watson (1,383 yards rushing; 389 yards receiving, 27 total TDs) and Betts (519 yards rushing; 407 yards receiving, 13 total TDs). Bowsky (57 tackles, 14 TFL, 2 sacks), Nix (58 tackles, 5 TFL) and Jones (58 tackles, 5 TFL) are solid holdovers on defense.

QUINLAN BOLES HORNETS (185)

Coach: Jawny Cannon. Lettermen R/L: 10/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Grayson Drennan (5-10, 4.9), WR/DB Elijah Granado (6-2, 4.6), DL/OL Mitch Barnett (5-10, 205, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Jeremiah King (5-10, 4.8), QB/DB Gavin Williams (6-0, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DB Ashtyn Goodwin (6-1, 160).

Other prospects: OL/DL Brady Martin, OL/DL Eli Cannon.

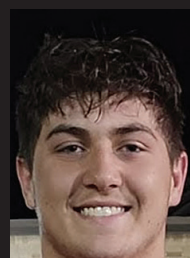
2025 notes: Replacing numerous skill position players will be key early, but the Hornets are experienced up front so they'll compete in the trenches until playmakers are found. Barnett, Martin and Cannon are solid holdovers from a team that started fast but struggled when league play rolled around. Granado, King, Williams and Goodwin give the Hornets good size and potential offensive weapons in the team's Gun-T offense.



Rocky FERGUSON
RB/LB
Sanford-Fritch



Hudson SWAN
QB/DB
Spearman



Cayde WINTERS
QB
West Texas



Dallas SUMNER
QB
New Deal



Fabian GUTIERREZ
RB/LB
Olton



Camden ABLES
ATH
Hawley



Braden JIMENEZ
RB/DB
Stamford



Mahsyn ALVARADO
TE/LB
Stamford

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BECKVILLE BEARCATS (192)

Coach: Cody Ross. Lettermen R/L: 14/9. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jordan Prince (5-11, 180, 4.5), QB Braxton Bullock (6-3, 195, 4.9), DB Grayson Hicks (5-10, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Devan Koger (6-0, 200, 5.2), DL Tommy Heard (5-8, 160, 4.9). Top juniors: LB/RB Rudy Watts (5-10, 160, 4.6), LB Dillan Koger (5-10, 165, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL/DL Ryder Davidson (5-11, 225, 5.2).

Other prospects: K/WR Jordan Mojica, OL Gunner McDaniel, OL/DL Brantley Grandgeorge.

2025 notes: The Bearcats lost some skill players, but the return of RB Prince (2,132 yards, 37 TDs rushing), QB Bullock (1,808 yards, 25 TDs passing; 383 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and three of five starters on the OL should keep the offense humming. DB Hicks (50 tackles) broke up 11 passes and will contribute more on offense this season. Keep an eye on Davidson, who started 12 games as a freshman and is the strongest kid in the program.

BIG SANDY WILDCATS (188)

Coach: Brian Pullum. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Brennon Ference (6-0, 280, 5.0), WR/DB Key'Marion Williams (5-11, 160, 4.5), WR Aidan Brown (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR/DB Evan Jitjaeng, LB Quinton Strain, OL/DL Landon Hartman

2025 notes: The Wildcats made a solid turnaround to earn a trip to the postseason after a slow start, but depth is a concern this time around. Ference (63 tackles) is a load along the defensive front, and WR Williams (15-335 yards, 5 TDs receiving) and standout sophomore WR Brown (51-840 yards, 8 TDs receiving) are a solid 1-2 punch on offense. A quarterback must emerge after the loss of a 2,000-yard passer.

ELYSIAN FIELDS YELLOWJACKETS (241)

Coach: Bo Maines. Lettermen R/L: 12/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Brandon Kennedy (5-9, 160, 4.6), TE/DL Jamarion Johnson (6-2, 250, 5.0), OL/DL Landon Lawless (5-11, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Kaden Paul Klingensmith (6-1, 220, 5.3), RB/DB Alex Simmons (5-10, 160, 4.6), PK Daniel West (5-9, 150, 4.8). Top juniors: RB/DB Suede Laffall (5-7, 140, 4.7), WR/DB Grant Farmer (5-10, 155, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB/LB Nate Hopkins (5-10, 155, 5.1).

Other prospects: WR/DB Corey Hardeman, WR/DB Amarion Roberson.

2025 notes: New coach Maines inherits one of the state's top athletes with the return of Kennedy (1,195 yards rushing; 35-694 yards receiving, 21 total TDs; 63 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 INTs), and DL Johnson (30 tackles) and Lawless (33 tackles, 3 sacks) are back on defense. West (4-4 FG, 33-36 PAT) is also a solid returning weapon. Overall depth is an issue,

but if the Yellowjackets stay healthy, another playoff trip should be in the works.

HARLETON WILDCATS (227)

Coach: Eric Drodgy. Lettermen R/L: 19/11. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Drake Phillips (6-2, 185, 4.8), RB/LB Alex Hold (5-11, 190, 4.8), OL/DL Kaden Johnson (5-11, 255, 5.2), OL/DL Lucas Duncan (5-10, 185, 5.0), WR/DB Luke Roberts (5-10, 185, 4.8). Top juniors: RB/LB Izayah Farris (5-10, 180, 4.8), QB/DB Skyler Karva (5-10, 170, 4.8). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jackson Mackey (5-10, 160, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/DB Josh Sanders.

2025 notes: Drodgy comes to Harleton with 25 years of experience, including head coaching jobs at Queen City and Trinity. He inherits a team that lacks experience in the trenches, but brings back hard-nosed RB Phillips, two-way standouts Hold and Roberts and a returning QB in Karva. Mackey gained valuable playing time as a freshman, and Johnson and Duncan were both state powerlifting qualifiers who will be leaders up front.

HAWKINS HAWKS (234)

Coach: Bill Cowley. Lettermen R/L: 12/15. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 5-5/2-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Brayden Givens (6-4, 190, 4.6), RB/LB Springer Crouch (5-7, 165, 4.7). Top junior: QB Eli Smith (6-1, 205, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DL Riffin Smith (6-3, 190, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB/DB Trevin Tanner, OL/DL Kegan McBride

2025 notes: The Hawks struggled when district play came around last season, but Cowley expects his team to be more mature physically and mentally in 2025. The return of QB Smith (2,867 yards, 37 TDs passing; 6 TDs rushing) and WR Givens (45-705 yards, 12 TDs receiving; 47 tackles, 6 TFL, 3 sacks) gives Hawkins a chance to light up scoreboards, and DL Smith (35 tackles, 4 sacks, 4 TFL) opened eyes as a freshman a year ago.

ORE CITY REBELS (231)

Coach: Justin Arnold. Lettermen R/L: 12/9. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-10/0-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Kol Peeler (6-0, 215, 4.8), ATH Kyler Rowe (6-4, 200, 4.6), OL/DL Jeff Andrews (5-10, 190, 5.0), RB/LB Elias Thornburg (5-9, 150, 4.9), DL Don Veasley (5-10, 280, 5.3). Top junior: OL/DL Landyn Collins (6-0, 250, 5.2). Top sophomore: LB Kash Davis (5-9, 150, 5.0).

Other prospects: RB/LB Hagen Robinson, LB/RB Jaxsen Smith.

2025 notes: It's another transition year for the Rebels as new coach Arnold — formerly Henderson's OC and Overton's head coach — becomes their fourth head coach in four seasons. Rowe (421 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 350 yards, 3 TDs receiving; 3 KR TDs) has great size and speed, and Peeler (512 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is tough to bring down. Andrews (42 tackles, 3 sacks) and Thornburg (42 tackles) are solid veteran holdovers on defense.

District 10-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jordan Prince, Beckville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Joe Irving, Waskom

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Waskom | 5. Glade Union Grove |
| 2. Beckville | 6. Big Sandy |
| 3. Hawkins | 7. Harleton |
| 4. Elysian Fields | 8. Ore City |

UNION GROVE LIONS (232)

Coach: Kyle Adams. Lettermen R/L: 15/14. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4/3-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Carter Cooper (5-9, 160), RB/DB Hudson Wightman (5-11, 165), OL/DL Caleb Day (6-2, 195), PK/P Luis Fernandez (5-10, 151), WR/DB Wrigley Roberts (5-11, 158), OL/DL Kolby Nutt (5-11, 188). Top juniors: OL/DL Michael Gibson (6-0, 222), WR/DB Kody Nutt (5-11, 152). Top sophomore: RB/LB Daniel Fernandez (5-8).

Other prospects: WR/LB Ty Cook, RB Kohl Sirmans.

2025 notes: All of the Lions' losses came in district play last season, but plenty of talent returns to get Union Grove back in the postseason picture. Cooper (171 tackles, 15 TFL, 2 sacks) is always around the football, and Wightman (83 tackles; 502 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 17-359 yards, 9 TDs receiving) is an impact player on both sides of the ball. PK/P Fernandez (27-31 PAT; 6-8 FG) gives the Lions a weapon not many 2A teams have.

WASKOM WILDCATS (241)

Coach: Wade Lawson. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Joe Irving (5-10, 181, 4.5), FB/LB Nate Espy (6-0, 207, 4.7), OL/LB Tae Harrison (6-0, 232, 4.9), QB/FS Chris Hernandez (5-7, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Kalob Mann (6-2, 275, 5.4), RB/DB Montez Thompson (5-8, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Aayden Corbett (6-1, 248, 5.1), OL/DL Elijah Conde (6-0, 255). Top sophomore: FB/LB Maddox Ducote (6-1, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/DB Davion Buffin, WR/DB Jaxon Hicks, WR/DL Landen Nolan, RB/DB Bubba Jones, WR/DB Julius Wash, RB/LB Jayden Miner, OL/DL JD Stephens, OL/DL Josh Bogan.

2025 notes: If a young offensive line comes around, look for the Wildcats to run wild. Irving (600 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 85 tackles, 8 TFL) is primed for a big year offensively after earning league defensive MVP honors. Espy (900 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 75 tackles, 17 TFL) has rushed for more than 2,000 yards the past two seasons, and QB Hernandez (625 yards, 9 TDs rushing; 341 yards, 6 TDs passing) also returns.



Heston JOBE
QB
DeLeon



Jake DAVID
WR/DB
Tioga



HD DAVIS
RB/LB
Wolfe City



Kaiden SCOTT
QB
Rio Vista



Gunner DOUGLAS
ATH
Cayuga



Trent HARRIS
RB
Mildred



Jordan PRINCE
RB
Beckville

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

RECRUITING
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

GARRISON BULLDOGS (226)

Coach: Brandon Alvarez. Lettermen R/L: 17/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Avery Yarbrough (5-8, 148), QB/DB Riley McGuire (6-0, 165), RB/LB Caden Reneau (5-9, 180). Top juniors: LB/TE Ronnie Jernigan (5-10, 190), LB/TE Hayden Peddy (6-2, 190). Top sophomore: RB/DE C'Naji Henderson (6-1, 215), DL/TE Bo Pollard, WR/DB Sam Adkison, WR/DB Travis Burkhalter, RB/DL Carter Crawford, WR/DB Jax Winder, WR/DB Cohen Hairgrove, WR/LB Aaron Iverson, RB/DL Chad Henderson.

2025 notes: Garrison relied on several young players in 2024, and they're hungry veterans now, which bodes well for the Bulldogs. RB Yarbrough is a shifty, powerful runner, and McGuire took over after an injury to the starting QB and didn't play like a sophomore. Expect Reneau to see some time in the backfield on offense.

HEMPHILL HORNETS (221)

Coach: Brandon Layne. Lettermen R/L: 12/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jarrell Williams (6-4, 240, 4.8), OL/DL Ely Corbello (6-1, 275, 5.4), RB/LB Aidan Coleman (5-8, 170, 4.7), QB Brady Layne (6-2, 160, 5.3), WR/DB Braylon Northen (5-8, 160, 4.6), RB/LB R'Chyon Smith (5-10, 190, 4.7), OL Esteban Antimo (5-11, 270, 5.5), WR Zae White (5-10, 140, 4.5), WR/DB Joeshiah Parks, WR/DB Orin Lathom, OL Justis Fowler, DL Kane Smith.

2025 notes: Second-year coach Layne thinks the Hornets can turn things around thanks to a solid offseason and second year in the system. QB Layne started four games as a freshman and should be much-improved. WR Smith is a solid weapon, and DL Williams put up good numbers in 2024.

JOAQUIN RAMS (226)

Coach: Jared Jones. Lettermen R/L: 12/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-5 state semifinalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Cooper Bragg (6-0, 170, 4.5), WR/DB Max Garvin (5-10, 170, 4.5), OL/TE Aiden

Kilpatrick (5-10, 240, 5.0), TE/DL Conner Rios (6-6, 245, 5.0), TE/LB Karson Rodgers (5-11, 205, 5.3), DB/RB Jacob Gatlin (5-9, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Brody Cummings (6-3, 315, 5.7), LB Trenton Runnels (5-11, 200, 5.0), OL Brent Cummings (6-3, 315, 5.9), CB/RB JB Wilson, LB/RB Degan Lee, DB Jayden Brown.

2025 notes: The Rams bounced back from a two-win season to make a five-round playoff run a year ago under first-year coach Jones. Speedsters Bragg and Garvin are both big play threats on offense with a nose for the ball on defense. Kilpatrick is a "tank" at defensive end, and Brody and Brent Cummings give the Rams terrific size up front for a 2A program.

SAN AUGUSTINE WOLVES (205)

Coach: Tory Barnes. Lettermen R/L: 13/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH D'Adrian Renfro (6-2, 215, 4.6), QB/DB Tymorian Cartwright (5-8, 160, 4.5), RB/LB Andrew Nash (5-9, 180, 4.6), WR/LB Jaylen Jackson (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Max Renfro (6-1, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Terry Cooper (6-0, 240, 5.2), WR/LB Jeremiah Dupree (6-1, 160, 4.9), RB/DB Kerrick Burrell, WR/DB TJ Jayvian Burrell.

2025 notes: A lack of depth and experience up front are concerns, but the Wolves have explosive athletes all over the field to make up for it. That starts with Renfro, a junior already fielding Power-4 offers, and dual-threat Cartwright. LB Jackson is a physical player who always seems to be around the football.

SHELBYVILLE DRAGONS (227)

Coach: Jerred Wallace. Lettermen R/L: 19/4. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Cason Lee (6-3, 305), OL/DL Jose Gonzalez (5-7, 225, 5.4), LB Gus Duvon (6-0, 190, 4.7), LB William Walden (5-10, 205, 4.8), ATH Hunter Harvey (5-7, 155, 4.5), RB Ronnie Williams (5-9, 185, 4.7), LB Dallas Murry (6-0, 210, 4.9), DB Ty Mosby (5-11, 160, 4.5), DL Detoris Hubbard, DB JD Suell, TE Aiden Shields.

2025 notes: Replacing nearly 5,000 yards and

3, 270, 5.0), QB Ty Torregrossa (6-0, 170, 4.7), RB/LB Trystin Ard (5-7, 175, 4.6), FB/DL Landon Conley (5-11, 180, 4.7), QB/DB Ruger McLain (6-0, 165, 4.7), FB/LB Colton Cox (6-1, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Jeremiah Yeager (5-10, 165), RB/DB Romello Wolfe, DL/OL Connor Cathey, OL/DL Cuyler Parker.

2025 notes: Groveton is determined to bounce back after a winless 2024 season under new head coach Scott Green. The Indians return experience on both sides of the ball, led by OL/DL Townsend and QB Torregrossa. Despite last year's struggles, the team believes offseason development will fuel a turnaround. With a proud football tradition, Groveton expects to compete for a playoff spot in a similar looking district.

HEARNE EAGLES (245)

Coach: Alfonso Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 20/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Kellen Bowser (6-3, 210), LB Zayden Mercer (6-0, 205, 4.8), WR Kelton Cooks Jr. (6-0, 150), ATH Jederrius McGee (5-9, 165), CB Jacob Rodriguez (5-8, 150), OL/DL Kyrion Jackson (5-10, 220).

2025 notes: Hearne lost some key playmakers but hopes to build on returners who fueled a strong finish to the 2024 season. TE/DL Bowser (43 tackles, 2 sacks) leads the way, while LB Mercer (43 tackles, 2 INTs) takes on a bigger role defensively. WR Cooks (13-200 yards, 3 TDs receiving) also serves as a breakout candidate. The defense will be fast and physical, but can the full roster gel for a playoff push?

JEWETT LEON COUGARS (218)

Coach: Derek Thomas. Lettermen R/L: 21/2. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Landon Thomas (6-2, 175), RB/LB Brady Rohrer (6-2, 218), FB/DL Cotton Brigner (6-2, 222), OL/DL Jackson Guyton (6-4, 290), RB/LB Parker Thomas (5-9, 180), RB/LB Matthew Lim.

2025 notes: It's rare for a Class 2A program to return nearly two dozen lettermen, but Jewett Leon is poised for a strong 2025. This senior class has

District 11-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Cooper Bragg, Joaquin

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Avery Yarbrough, Garrison

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Garrison
2. Joaquin
3. Shelbyville
4. Timpson
5. San Augustine
6. Hemphill

57 touchdowns at the QB spot won't be easy, but the Dragons are loaded everywhere else. Lee gave up one sack in 2024 and recovered four fumbles on defense. Harvey is double trouble for opponents, and Williams is another solid offensive weapon.

TIMPSON BEARS (225)

Coach: Patrick Gandy. Lettermen R/L: 18/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 5-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Mayson Harbison (6-1, 225, 4.9), QB/DB Braylon Parker (5-10, 155, 4.5), WR/DB Dacorian Johnson (6-0, 175, 4.6), RB/DB Chris Nickleberry Jr. (5-8, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Albert Parker (5-10, 155, 4.6), RB/LB Jeffrey Richardson (5-9, 175, 4.7), OL/LB Corey Wilson (5-10, 200, 4.9), OL/DL Clifford Cline (6-4, 220, 5.2), TE/LB Sean Matts, OL/DL Dillon Wilkie, WR/LB Phonte Collins, TE/LB Ja'Haveon Tutt, OL/DL Londell Parker, PK/DB Alexis Castillo.

2025 notes: Gandy has been with the program long enough to know his Bears won't stay down long. Harbison is a proven leader on both sides of the ball, and Parker can play anywhere he's needed. Big things are expected from WR Johnson and RB Nickleberry, who both battled injuries a year ago.

CENTERVILLE TIGERS (197)

Coach: Kyle Hardee. Lettermen R/L: 13/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/9. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Amarius Phillips (5-10, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Gio Guzman (5-11, 200, 4.7), OL/DL Jarrell Wright (6-0, 280), RB/LB Wyatt Burleson (5-8, 165, 4.7), OL/DL David Nunley (6-0, 330), RB/LB Cooper Wilson (5-10, 180, 4.8), RB/LB Jake Gray, RB/DB Joseph Sims, WR/DB Jeremy Rosales, OL/DL Hurley Ford.

2025 notes: It's no secret that wins are expected at Centerville, which is aiming for its 14th winning season in the past 15 years. But the Tigers must replace key contributors on both sides of the ball. Star RB Phillips (1,629 yards, 17 TDs rushing) returns to lead the offense, but other help is needed. The pieces could be there, but can a new wave of playmakers step up and keep the streak alive?

CORRIGAN-CAMDEN BULLDOGS (252)

Coach: Brett Ratliff. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Derrick Reagie (6-2, 205, 4.6), ATH William Ratliff (6-1, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Mason Murphy (5-7, 170, 4.5), TE/LB Tahj Thomas (5-11, 215, 4.7), DL Layton Cox (6-2, 205, 4.7), RB Damere Arneson (5-10, 195, 4.6), LB/TE Braylon Levy (6-0, 200, 4.8), OL/DL Tony Cuevas (5-9, 225, 4.8), OL/DL Kody Johnson, OL Roman Ramirez, RB/LB Nemo Marshall, OL/DL Kaydn Burks, WR/DB NJ Love.

2025 notes: Corrigan-Camden looks to build on its strong tradition, with 16 returning starters and a core of key players led by RB/DL Derrick Reagie (1,758 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 55 tackles, 3 sacks) and ATH William Ratliff (1,000 all-purpose yards, 6 TDs; 78 tackles, 1 INT). Despite concerns about secondary depth, the Bulldogs' strong team chemistry and experienced roster put them in a good position to contend for the top spot in a tougher district.

GROVETON INDIANS (228)

Coach: Scott Green. Lettermen R/L: 14/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Haygen Townsend (6-

started since his freshman year, improving steadily each season. Can QB Thomas (565 yards, 3 TDs passing) and company lead Jewett Leon to its eighth straight playoff appearance?

NORMANKEE PANTHERS (185)

Coach: Bret Page. Lettermen R/L: 23/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Marshall Harris (5-11, 215), OL/DL Yeshua Teran (5-11, 195), RB/LB Rowen Cotten (5-10, 180), WR/DB Kaleb Brooks (5-10, 170), QB/DB Kelvin Brooks (5-10, 170), WR/DB Jaxon Scheffer (6-0, 175), WR/DB Cade Harris (5-11, 180), OL/DL Rayce Gafford (260), WR/LB Wyatt Kimich, WR/DB Tyler Hunter, WR/DB Nicholas Klaus, OL/DL Bruce Grandchamp.

2025 notes: After just three total wins over the past three seasons, new head coach Bret Page is eager to spark a turnaround at Normangee. The Panthers return a competitive core with significant varsity experience from 2024. It may take time for Page to establish his system, but there's optimism the foundation is in place. With improved consistency and leadership, can Normangee take the next step and push for its first playoff appearance since 2021?

District 12-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Amarius Phillips, Centerville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Derrick Reagie, Corrigan-Camden

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Centerville
2. Corrigan-Camden
3. Hearne
4. Jewett Leon
5. Groveton
6. Normangee

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRUCEVILLE-EDDY EAGLES (201)

Coach: Marcial Chapa. Lettermen R/L: 15/11. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/2-3 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Daniel Jones (6-0, 240), OL/DL George Lopez (5-9, 205), OL/DL Evan Waldrop (6-0, 200), QB/DB Trey Gail (6-4, 205), RB/LB Travis Lopez (5-7, 170), WR/DB Julian Gonzales (5-9, 150), WR/DB Langsten Bailey (5-9, 150), RB/LB Tajarwin Horne (5-10, 200), OL/DL Anthony Bradley, OL/DL Hernan Renteria, OL/DL Jonathan Seary, RB/LB Zach Campos.

2025 notes: Bruceville-Eddy's strength in 2025 will come from its solid offensive line, which the Eagles hope can make up for a lack of depth in other areas. Despite facing a tough district with teams such as Rosebud, Marlin and Crawford, Bruceville-Eddy believes it can secure a playoff spot with its strong play in the trenches and emerging talent.

CRAWFORD PIRATES (183)

Coach: Ty Robinson. Lettermen R/L: 18/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 3-9 area finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Cade Carroll (6-0, 165, 4.6), WR/DB JJ Suarez (5-7, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Travis Stanford (6-0, 180, 4.9), OL/DL Chad Kelsey (6-0, 225, 4.9), QB/DB Cameron Parsons (5-11, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Ryan Yocham (5-10, 165, 4.7), RB/DB Jayden Minnish, FB/LB Cooper Denard, OL/DL Issak Velasquez, RB/LB AJ Jenkins.

2025 notes: At Crawford, a 3-9 season in 2024 fell below expectations, but the Pirates still reached the playoffs and won a game. Now, they enter with new coach Ty Robinson, who led Woodville to a 3A DII title game last year. With experience returning on both sides of the ball, Crawford leans on WR/DB Suarez and FB/LB Denard to lead the charge in 2025.

MARLIN BULLDOGS (250)

Coach: Jeff Rogers. Lettermen R/L: 13/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 10-4 regional finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Brysen Steele (6-1, 300), QB/LB De'Angelo Wright (6-0, 180, 4.6), B/WR Jaden

Ray (5-10, 150, 4.5), WR/DB Keyshaun Massington (6-0, 145, 4.5), DL D'aire Johnson (5-10, 260), RB/DB Dai'Viyon Evans (5-6, 135, 4.7), LB/RB Ivan Ricks (5-7, 160), WR/DB Christopher Sherman (5-10, 4.7), OL/DL Daniel Vallecillos, WR/DB Danique Benjamin, OL/DL George King, WR/DB D'Marion Butler.

2025 notes: Marlin fell two wins short of Jerry World last year and now faces the challenge of replacing key players on both sides of the ball. QB/LB Wright (1,030 yards, 9 TDs rushing; 58 tackles) will lead the offense, while OL/DL Steele (104 tackles, 33 TFL) anchors the trenches.

MOODY BEARCATS (214.5)

Coach: Weston Cooper. Lettermen R/L: 17/11. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Caleb Stinson (5-10, 160), WR/QB/DB Ross Petree (5-11, 170), OL/DL Santiago Castillo (6-0, 290), QB Lee Womack (5-9, 155), TE/LB Cooper Moffenbier (5-9, 175), OL/LB Roman Luna (5-6, 195), DB Robert Collins (5-11, 155), RB/DB Dominic Eubanks, RB/DB Khirey London, WR/DB Chase Swanson.

2025 notes: Moody battled injuries in a winless 2024 season but sees a turnaround ahead with plenty of returning starters. Experience is spread across the roster and a solid offensive line provides stability. WR/DB Stinson (34-34.0, 3 TDs receiving) and QB Womack (1,112 yards, 6 TDs passing) will be key playmakers.

RIESEL INDIANS (208)

Coach: Robert Little. Lettermen R/L: 10/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Rhiley Earley, RB/DL Grayson Oliver, RB/DB A'rious Landrum, OL/DL Ediel Cuellar, WR/DB Pistol Tullos, OL/DL Jared Mathis, RB/LB Taygen Childers, RB/DL Nick Kubitz, OL/DL Bruce Ehlers, OL/DL Phil Sims, RB/LB Sam Moore, WR/DB Haiden Kempton, RB/LB Canaan Johnson.

2025 notes: Riesel faces a rebuilding year after a

District 13-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Pryce Rabroker, Rosebud-Lott

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Brysen Steele, Marlin

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Marlin | 5. Bruceville-Eddy |
| 2. Rosebud-Lott | 6. Moody |
| 3. Crawford | |
| 4. Riesel | |

solid playoff run in 2024. The Indians are acknowledging the challenge of replacing a large senior class, leaving the team less experienced. However, with returning leaders such as WR/DB Earley, RB/DL Oliver and WR/DB Tullos, the Indians will look to remain competitive.

ROSEBUD-LOTT COUGARS (231)

Coach: Brandon Hicks. Lettermen R/L: 18/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 6-5 2A DI bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Pryce Rabroker (6-3, 175, 4.7), FB/LB Bo McGinniss (5-11, 190, 4.7), RB/LB Zaylon Wells (5-11, 185, 4.6), RB/DL Colby Colbert (5-11, 180, 4.6), DB Orrin Pomykal (5-10, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Brayden Warner (6-1, 215, 4.9), LB Labron Washington, OL/DL Justin Portillo, RB/DB Daniel Rincon.

2025 notes: Rosebud-Lott made its third playoff appearance in four years and looks to be even stronger in 2025. The Cougars will be more mature on defense while elevating their speed and physicality. QB Rabroker returns for his third year under center, but his young receiver group must develop quickly. With experience in key spots, Rosebud-Lott hopes to take another step forward and make a deeper playoff run.

HARPER LONGHORNS (184)

Coach: Chad Zenner. Lettermen R/L: 13/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 3-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Justin Wilke (6-2, 175, 4.7), WR/DB William Spaeth (6-2, 175, 4.7), QB/LB Braydon Lake (6-0, 195, 4.9), WR/DB Jaylon Wilson (6-2, 175, 4.6), RB/LB Jace Helfrich (6-0, 170, 4.6), WR/LB Chase Hawkins.

2025 notes: With a bevy of returning upperclassmen, Harper is optimistic about a turnaround. Rising junior QB/LB Lake (1,574 yards, 13 TDs passing) should be more comfortable in the pocket, while RB/DB Wilke (668 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 88 tackles) and WR Spaeth (25-435, 4 TDs receiving) give the offense proven weapons.

HOLLAND HORNETS (185)

Coach: JB Chaney. Lettermen R/L: 11/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Mason Chaney (6-0, 198, 4.8), WR Chance Harvey, OL Derek Busby, RB Hunter Mariante, OL Gunner Camden (6-0, 260), QB Gavin Brummett.

2025 notes: Holland graduated a large class but retains key strengths for 2025. The Hornets bring back key offensive linemen to protect sophomore QB Brummett and open lanes for RB Mariante, a dynamic runner with speed. That size up front will also benefit the defense. While there are new faces at the skill positions, they'll have opportunities to step up.

JOHNSON CITY EAGLES (250)

Coach: Brent Kornegay. Lettermen R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Luke Lorenzen (6-1, 210, 4.8), WR/DB Brady Odiorne (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Ethan Runnels (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Hagen Birck (5-11, 200, 4.8), QB/DL Wyatt Lorenzen (6-0, 190, 4.7), RB/LB Tripp Crownover (6-0, 175, 4.6), WR/DB Jagger Stawinski, OL/DL/K Mateo Hernandez, LB Truett Fry (6-0, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Carson Metcalf, OL/DL Camden Cunningham, OL/DL Bryan Gayosso.

2025 notes: Johnson City enters a new era under

first-year head coach Brent Kornegay, who aims to guide the Eagles to their fifth playoff appearance in six years. There's excitement around the program as Kornegay and his staff implement new schemes. The Eagles have talent across the board, but inexperience up front could be a hurdle.

MASON PUNCHERS (210)

Coach: Wade Griffin. Lettermen R/L: 10/18. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 11-2 regional semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Clancy Osbourn (6-1, 205), RB/LB Slade Buell (6-1, 185), QB/DB Grant Nobles (5-8, 160), RB/LB Fisher Bradley (6-1, 190), WR/DB Trevor Loeffler (5-11, 165), WR/DB Kingston Garza (5-11, 155).

2025 notes: Michael McLeod is out after 58 wins in six seasons; new coach Griffin is in from Weimar. With only five starters returning, questions loom about the program's direction. Still, the Punchers are a perennial power with a strong tradition, including state titles in 2011 and 2018. If the transition is smooth, Mason could keep rolling — but if not, the program risks its first losing season since 2007.

SAN SABA ARMADILLOS (213)

Coach: Andreas Aguirre. Lettermen R/L: 24/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Luke Tharp (5-10, 185, 4.7), LB/RB Jason Everett (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Kolton Pierce (5-10, 190, 4.9), DB/WR Cash Bryant (6-2, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Omar Landeros (6-2, 230, 5.3), K Brandon Gonzales (5-8, 140, 4.8), WR/DB Preston Gray (5-11, 170), K Noel Vega (5-9, 150, 5.0), DL Jefferson Stencil, DB Sterling Proffitt, LB Juan Panto.

2025 notes: San Saba doubled its 2023 win total in 2024 and looks to keep that momentum going. The Armadillos return plenty of talent, led by dynamic QB/DB Tharp (781 yards, 8 TDs passing; 1,889 yards, 21 TDs rushing; 22 tackles, 1 INT), who'll work behind four returning offensive linemen. LB/RB Everett (115

tackles, 18 TFL, 1 sack; 321 yards rushing) anchors the defense. Can San Saba get to the postseason and make a deeper run?

THORNDALE BULLDOGS (204)

Coach: John Kovar. Lettermen R/L: 21/9. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Kale Meadors (6-0, 195, 4.6), OL/DL Cayson Merz (6-2, 240, 5.0), OL/DL Wyatt Betak (6-2, 230, 4.9), RB/LB Kade Becker (5-10, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Ethan Schramm (6-0, 175, 4.6), OL/LB Logan Ferguson (6-0, 195, 4.9), WR Jaxson Eschberger (5-11, 170, 4.6), QB/DB Case McDaniell, RB/LB Cole Harkins, OL Hayden Wilson, OL/DL Brayden Lehmann.

2025 notes: Thorndale bounced back in 2024 with an eight-win season and a return to the playoffs after going winless in 2023. Now, the Bulldogs aim to build on that momentum. With 14 returning starters and rare 2A depth in the trenches, they'll lean on experience up front to offset questions at quarterback and running back. LB Meadors (86 tackles), OL/DL Merz and OL/DL Betak lead the way. Can Thorndale take the next step in 2025?

District 14-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Luke Tharp, San Saba

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Kale Meadors, Thorndale

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Mason | 5. Johnson City |
| 2. San Saba | 6. Harper |
| 3. Thorndale | |
| 4. Holland | |

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BLOOMINGTON BOBCATS (249)

Coach: Lane Shands. Lettermen R/L: 22/1. Starters returning O/D: 10/11. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Amari Gardner (5-6, 150, 4.5), RB/DB Ayden Gardner (5-9, 160, 4.6), TE/DE Blitz De La Rosa (6-0, 200, 5.0), RB/LB Don Reyes (5-6, 160, 4.6), TE/DE Ayden Newman (5-11, 204, 5.0), WR/DB Kodiak Hren (5-11, 160, 4.6), OT/DT Jordan Longoria (5-10, 225, 5.0), OL/DL Raymond Baladez (5-6, 165, 5.0), OL/DT Henry Rodriguez (5-7, 200, 5.0), RB/CB Kenny Flood, QB/DB Bryant Clay, RB/CB Eric Mumphord.

2025 notes: The Bobcats were one win shy of breaking a playoff drought that extends back to 1999. But the opportunity to end the streak may never be greater than this season with every defensive starter and all but one offensive starter returning.

DANBURY PANTHERS (228)

Coach: Shea Bolton. Lettermen R/L: 17/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Chris Warren (5-11), QB/DB Cash Lamb (5-9), WR/LB Connor Barmettler (5-10), FB/LB Fisher Dees (6-2), OL/DL Blayne Scott (6-0), OL/DL Lane Krennek (6-0), OL/DL Mark Tomlinson (5-11), RB/DB Bryson Johnson (5-10), QB/RB Cameron Price (6-1), QB/LB Jaca Reiloux, TE/LB Peyton Hobbs, TE/LB Sabastian Izcoa.

2025 notes: Bolton becomes Danbury's sixth head coach since 2013 and brings a defensive background. Defense will be a priority, considering the Panthers gave up 179 points in their final four games.

FLATONIA BULLDOGS (210)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 21/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Caysen Perez (5-11, 175, 4.7), RB/LB Koren Scott (5-11, 190, 4.8), TE/LB Lukas Gutierrez (5-10, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Diego Ramirez (5-9, 200, 5.1), OL/DL Kevin Ramirez (6-0, 240, 5.4), DL Eli Kubesch (6-0, 175, 4.9), K Jose Garcia (5-8, 150, 4.9), QB/DB Jaylon Anderson (6-2, 150, 4.9), WR/DB Zayen

Perez, RB/LB Nathan Aguillon, RB/LB Carmine Valdez, OL/DL Alex Castro, OL/DL Ethan Arnett, OL/DL Sergio Castro, WR/DB Abraham Saavedra.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs figure there is no way to go but up after losing their last nine games last season. The losses stung, but a young OL and DL gained valuable experience that should pay off this season.

GANADO INDIANS (214)

Coach: Josh Ervin. Lettermen R/L: 7/18. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 15-1 state champion/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Logan Bures (5-8, 155, 4.6), WR/DB Austen Pena (5-9, 150, 4.5), LB/FB John Utley (5-11, 175), WR/DB Cade Nixon, QB/LB Landyn Arriaga, OL/DL Michael Tristan, OL/DL Jack Hurt, LB/RB Kole Bures, WR/DB Sean Willis, OL/DL Jayden Hernandez, OL/DL Tyler Henderson.

2025 notes: QB Arriaga (446 yards, 5 TDs passing; 2 TDs rushing) got valuable experience starting the first three games. RB Bures (1,398 yards, 15 TDs rushing; 136 yards, 6 TDs receiving) proved pivotal in the playoffs, along with WR Pena (797 yards, 10 TDs receiving), who caught the winning two-point pass in the state final.

KENEDY LIONS (240)

Coach: Mike Jackson. Lettermen R/L: 17/9. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Dylan Russell (6-0, 160, 4.6), RB David Fraga (5-7, 150, 4.8), DB Dehlay Salas (5-10, 160, 4.8), TE/LB Isaiah Morin (5-10, 190, 4.9), TE/LB Joel Garcia (5-10, 180, 4.9), Jagger Hartsfield (5-5, 140, 4.6), QB/LB David Salas, OL Jesse Fraga, DL Richard Wilson, LB Rayden Reyna, WR/DB Tristan Mireles, WR/DB Karsen Reyes, OL Michael Romo, QB Jericho Jackson.

2025: Jackson led the Lions to the playoffs in his first season as head coach, and sees a bright future with nine starters returning on both sides of the ball.

SCHULENBURG SHORTHORNS (250.5)

Coach: Clay Ferguson. Lettermen R/L: 17/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

OL/DL Jason De Los Santos, OL/DL Alex Hernandez, WR/DB Jaedynce Lewis, RB/DL Johnavon Montalvo.

2025 notes: Lewis moves from RB to QB, which should boost the running attack with Wills (700 yards, 19 TDs rushing) returning at RB. LB Wills (130) and DE Taylor (11 sacks) will play key roles on defense.

RIVIERA-KAUFER SEAHAWKS (194)

Coach: Jay Aleman. Lettermen R/L: 13/2. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 0-10/0-6.

Players to watch: RB/LB Liam Hingosa (5-8, 150, 4.8), LB/RB Jahgan Gutierrez (5-10, 175, 5.0), WR/Damien Perez (5-6, 140, 5.1), OL/OL Cesar DeLeon (5-8, 185, 5.4), DL/OL Lucas Alegria (5-10, 190, 5.5), DL/OL Benny Rodriguez (5-7, 210, 5.8), OL Santiago Badillo (5-10, 215, 5.3), OL Caleb Bunker (5-9, 190, 5.5).

2025 notes: RB/LB Hingosa figures to have an impact on both sides of the ball after leading the team in rushing and interceptions. DL DeLeon is the top returning tackler.

SANTA MARIA COUGARS (185)

Coach: Bobby Gaytan. Lettermen R/L: 14/4. Starters Returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Miguel Alaniz (5-7, 140, 4.8), RB Daniel Martinez (5-8, 165, 4.8), LB Andre Delarosa (5-6, 190, 4.9), DL Jason Aleman (6-0, 190, 5.0), WR Luis Otero (5-11, 175, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Cougars return key players from their third-place team. QB Alaniz, RB Martinez, and WR Otero will make the transition to a new coach smoother. LB Delarosa and DL Aleman will lead the defense.

SKIDMORE-TYNAN BOBCATS (230)

Coach: Bill Jehling. Lettermen R/L: 12/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Oscar Villarreal (5-10, 230, 5.1), RB/LB Donovan Garcia (5-10, 160, 4.8), TE/DL Anthony Villarreal (5-10, 190, 5.0), OL/DL Enrique Ramirez (5-10, 245, 5.2), WR/DB Jessie Urdiales (5-8, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Ethan Herrera (5-10, 200, 5.0), QB/TE/LB Morgan Schanen (5-8, 165, 4.9), QB/WR/DB Mason Swinnea (5-11, 155, 4.9), WR/DB Chason Chambers, OL/

District 15-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jerron Fisher, Weimar

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Logan Bures, Ganado

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Ganado | 5. Bloomington |
| 2. Weimar | 6. Flatonia |
| 3. Schulenburg | 7. Danbury |
| 4. Kenedy | |

Players to watch: WR/DB Jayse Janda (6-0, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Reid Janda (5-9, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Dean Bradley (5-11, 220, 5.0), TE/DL Jayvan Luhrs (6-3, 215, 4.8), RB/LB Mason Kunschick (6-0, 175, 4.9), WR/DB Nicolas Goode (6-0, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Zeke Guevara (6-1, 200, 5.1).

2025 notes: Coach Ferguson took over in March and is excited about the potential of WR Jayce Janda and DB Reid Janda, who will also play WR. The key for the Shorthorns will be finding a QB to get them the ball.

WEIMAR WILDCATS (199)

Coach: Dylan Conway. Lettermen R/L: 19/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Jerron Fisher (5-9, 170, 4.4), LB/TE Drew Montgomery (6-0, 205, 4.6), RB/LB Ty Chmelik (6-0, 185, 4.5), OL/DL Nico Vasquez (6-2, 220, 4.9), OL/DL Cullen Schimcek (6-5, 260), DB/RB Kamryn Burley (6-1, 170, 4.4), RB/DB Shifatu Mikael (5-7, 165, 4.6), LB/RB Landon Vacek (6-2, 220, 4.5), QB/DB Collin Morrison, QB/DB Sammy Hernandez, LB/RB Raul Sierra.

2025 notes: The Wildcats will have no shortage of speed and depth in the backfield. RB Fisher (1,600 yards rushing) emerged last season and he will have plenty of company in the backfield.

DL Rosario Luna Palacios, DB Aidon Lehmon, TE/DE Dylan Cox, WR/DB Dominick Trevino-Rodriguez, RB/LB Aiden Saavedra, FB/LB Tony Rodriguez, QB/WR Kiethan Wilson.

2025 notes: Coach Jehling led the Bobcats to the playoffs in his first season and hopes to build on that accomplishment. The team is still transitioning from a power run game to more of a passing offense.

THREE RIVERS BULLDOGS (204)

Coach: Jesse Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Ethan Conn (5-11, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Corbin Zamzow (5-10, 165, 4.5), OL/DL David Torres (6-0, 245, 5.0), QB/DB/RB/WR Paxton Soliz (5-7, 145, 4.5), WR/LB Anthony Salinas (5-4, 140, 4.7), TE/LB Evin Sheppard (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Nathan Rivera (6-2, 150, 4.7), TE/LB Jayden Saenz, QB/WR/DB Donovan Roberts, RB/LB Mason Davis, TE/DE Dylan Ender, OL/LB Ryan Rodriguez, OL/DL Raul Rios, OL/DT Deven Perez, RB/DB Holden Terry, RB/DB Xavion Carranza, OL/DL Walker Fox.

2025 notes: Skill shouldn't be an issue for new coach Garcia with the return of Conn (323 yards receiving), Zamzow (272 yards, 4 TDs receiving), and Soliz (202 yards, 2 TDs receiving), who could move to QB.

District 16-2A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Miguel Alaniz, Santa Maria

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Zander Wills, Refugio

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Refugio | 5. Freer |
| 2. Santa Maria | 6. Premont |
| 3. Three Rivers | 7. Riviera-Kaufer |
| 4. Skidmore-Tynan | |

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BOVINA MUSTANGS (143)

Coach: Ramiro Carmona. Letterman R/L: 4/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-6/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Angel Lara (5-10, 200, 4.5), TE/DL Xavier Garcia (5-10, 190, 4.6), WR/LB Ricardo Cano (5-10, 170, 4.9), FB/LB Alexandro Herrera (5-6, 150, 5.0). Top juniors: OL/DL Eric Solis (6-5, 300, 5.2), QB/LB Matthew Espinoza (5-9, 185, 5.0).

2025 notes: It was a rough season for Carmona and the Mustangs, missing the playoffs a year ago. With 16 starters returning, the 2025 campaign is looking much stronger, especially with workhorse RB Lara back. Lara (685 yards, 4 TDs rushing) not only led the offense and was dangerous any time he touched the ball, but was also a run-stopping linebacker. TE Garcia and OL Solis will be blocking factors getting Lara loose against opponents.

FARWELL STEERS (172)

Coach: Derrick Shelton. Letterman R/L: 18/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Chris Reyes, WR/DB Hudson Agee, WR/DB Andrae Pullen, OL/DL William Husted, OL/DL Hunter Ruthardt. Top juniors: RB/LB Franklin Valle. Top sophomore: ATH Coy Miller.

2025 notes: Like many teams across the state, the Farwell Steers have a new head coach to guide the program into the future. Shelton comes to Farwell after a previous stop as the offensive coordinator at Mount Pleasant. He inherits a veteran squad that returns WR Agee, the top receiver from last year. The Steers do need to find a QB but are solid up front with OL/DL Husted and Ruthardt back.

GRUVER GREYHOUNDS (151)

Coach: Kurt Haberthur. Letterman R/L:

CROSBYTON CHIEFS (92)

Coach: Ceasar Costilla. Letterman R/L: 7/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Aiden Luna (5-11, 140), RB Miah Marquez (5-9, 170), WR Dominic Aguilera (5-10, 160), OL/DL Roman Childers (5-9, 220), OL/DL Josiah Vega-Vitolas (5-9, 220), WR/DB Christian Dominguez (5-10, 160), WR/DB Henry Sandoval III (5-6, 132), OL/DL Wyndun Banta (5-9, 160), RB/DL Nick Godinez (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: Crosbyton showed major improvement and made the playoffs last season. An offseason in the weight room and discipline in practice could yield even better results. QB Luna (1,020 yards, 7 TDs passing) was a running threat as well. WR Fira brings trust to the receiving group, as does Aguilera. OL/DL Childers, Vega-Vitolas, and Banta have to be the backbone of this Chieftains team where it counts — in the trenches.

HALE CENTER OWLS (173)

Coach: Marc Puente. Letterman R/L: 13/12. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Ryan Mesquite (5-8, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Damian Martinez (6-1, 220, 4.6), RB/LB Josiah Vara (5-7, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Aiden Shaver (5-7, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Edwin Alvidrez (5-7, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Aaron Trevino (5-10, 240, 4.7), OL/DL Elias Ochoa (5-7, 245, 4.9), RB/LB Bennie Ruiz (5-10, 150, 4.7), WR/LB DJ Hinojosa.

2025 notes: Hale Center rewrote record books last season winning the program's first district championship in 39 years and getting the school's first playoff gold ball in 29 years. The Owls are having to find some key pieces to replace the skill positions, but are solid up front with OL/DL Martinez, a three-year letterman that leads both sides of the trenches. WR Mesquite (357 yards) returns to give this team some help on the perimeter.

LOCKNEY LONGHORNS (132)

Coach: Jonathan Thiebaud. Letterman R/L: 11/10. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 5-5/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Daniel Alvarado, WR/DB

16/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 14-1 state semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Briggs Satterfield (6-1, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Brock Butler (5-10, 150, 4.7), WR Nick Shepard (6-1, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Mason Lankford (6-3, 170, 4.6), LB Victor Flores (5-9, 185, 4.9), RB Dax Conyers (6-1, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: TE/DL Pake Babbs.

2025 notes: Fresh off a trip to the state semifinals, expectations are sky-high with a plethora of skill players returning. The biggest question mark for the Greyhounds is finding linemen to block for all of their speedy weapons. QB Satterfield (2,935 yards, 37 TDs passing) is a top dual-threat signal-caller and WRs Butler (703 yards receiving), Shepard (766 yards receiving) and Lankford (589 yards receiving) make up one of the best receiver groups in all of the small school level. LB Flores (127 tackles) returns after an amazing junior year.

STRATFORD ELKS (165)

Coach: Jonathan Murphy. Letterman R/L: 14/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Chase Lantelme (6-1, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Darius Jones (5-8, 180, 4.7), TE/LB Jackson Carroll (6-1, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Kooper Walden (6-3, 190, 4.9). Top juniors: Hudson Holland (6-3, 210, 4.9), OL/DL David Hernandez (5-10, 260, 5.1). Top sophomore: QB/LB Hunter Lee (5-9, 165, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/DB Alex Romero, RB/DB Mason Lavake, RB/LB Junior Gonzalez, TE/LB Alejandro Casas.

2025 notes: For the first time in four years, the Stratford Elks are going to have to adjust to life without all-state QB/LB Bryce Braden, who is now at the Air Force Academy. That being said, the expectation doesn't change for this Texas Panhandle blue-blood with QB Lantelme (1,319

Dahlen Silva, OL/DL Matthew Garcia, QB/DB Aatrayu Leal, RB/LB Darrin Jimenez, RB/LB Russell Casillas.

2025 notes: The foundation is there with a veteran senior group, but to see great things happen for the Lockney Longhorns the younger players need to step up and play a key role in the fall. One of those underclassmen to keep an eye on is the versatile RB Jimenez, who is the team's top returning rusher and receiver. WRs Alvarado and Silva provide help, giving QB Leal options.

MORTON INDIANS (108)

Coach: Trevor Bulmer. Letterman R/L: 14/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Brayden Villarreal (6-0, 170), WR/DB EJ Rivas (5-10, 160), WR/DB Jaeden Alvarado (6-1, 165), OL/DL Britton Boggs (6-0, 250), RB/LB Hez Silvas (5-10, 175), OL/DL Ismael Teniente (6-0, 255), OL/DL Bishop Keeling (5-11, 235). Other prospects: OL/DL Adrian Luevano, K/ATH Antonio Samaniego.

2025 notes: Coach Bulmer was promoted off the staff to replace Keith Mauldin this season, and it will be his first year as a head coach. Bulmer is eager to impress and has an experienced group to do it. QB Villarreal (1,282 yards, 9 TDs passing) is a dual-threat with massive potential. He's also very valuable on defense. WR Revis (918 yards) is not only a go-to offensive target but is another key cog on the defensive side of the ball.

RALLS JACKRABBITS (148)

Coach: Xavier Rangel. Letterman R/L: 13/7. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-7/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Craig Boyd (5-10, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Ethan Alcala (5-10, 290, 5.4), OL/DL Xaine Soliz (5-11, 175, 4.9), RB/QB/DB Dominique Villalba (5-9, 160, 4.8), QB/DB Neo Riojas (5-9, 160, 4.8), OL/DL Austin Wint (5-11, 250, 5.5), OL/LB Jesse Navarette (5-11, 175, 5.0), RB/DB Damani Bocanegra (5-8, 160, 4.7), RB/LB Ilias Menjares (6-0, 165, 4.7).

2025 notes: Like any run-oriented team, the foundation starts up front. Ralls fortunately has

District 1-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Briggs Satterfield, Gruver

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Chase Lantelme, Stratford

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Gruver
2. Stratford
3. Farwell
4. Bovina
5. Vega

yards, 18 TDs passing) ready to take the reins. WR Jones (759 yards) gives Lantelme that safety net. TE/DE Holland, if healthy, is another player that could have a breakout season.

VEGA LONGHORNS (112)

Coach: Jason Porton. Letterman R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 1-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Omar Segovia (5-10, 185, 4.7), OL/DL Trypp Busby (6-1, 225, 5.1). Top juniors: TE/LB Cruce Cook (6-1, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Miguel Gonzalez (5-9, 240, 5.0). Top sophomore: WR/DB Caige Van Dyke (5-10, 155, 4.7).

2025 notes: Fifteen returning starters are motivated to erase a tough one-win season from a year ago for coach Porton. It starts in the backfield with RB Segovia (1,045 yards, 10 TDs rushing), who will take the majority of the offensive load. DL Busby (40 tackles), Gonzalez (30 tackles) and LB Cruce (43 tackles) are trustworthy assets defensively and WR Van Dyke is an up-and-comer to keep an eye on.

those pieces in place. Anchoring that unit will be OL/DL Alcala, Soliz and Riojas. Soliz (50 tackles) also has an unstoppable motor on the defensive side. The Jackrabbits get back top rusher Byrd (473 yards, 6 TDs) but will need to find a QB to run the offense. Villalba and Riojas will compete for that spot.

SUDAN HORNETS (139)

Coach: John Cornelius. Letterman R/L: 19/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Caleb Groetken (6-0, 185, 4.7), TE/LB Aybran Granados (5-9, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Kincaid Boehning (6-0, 175, 4.8), RB/LB Javier Avila (6-0, 200, 4.8), OL/DL Louis Vargas (6-0, 245, 5.2), OL/DL Julian Salas (5-9, 245, 5.2), RB/LB Angel Martinez (5-6, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Zach Montes (5-8, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Westen Cannon (6-1, 240, 5.4), OL/LB Dylan Provence, RB/LB Kyler Edwards, OL/DL Joaquin Salas.

2025 notes: QB Groetken (1,343 yards, 17 TDs passing) has all the expectations to have a big season and keep the Hornets in any game with his dual-threat ability. The best news for Groetken is having the big boys up front returning. The OL has a veteran presence with Vargas, Lawson, Lopez, Salas and Cannon. Sudan will need a running back to emerge between Ornelas, King and Conley.

District 2-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Caleb Groetken, Sudan

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Ryan Mesquite, Hale Center

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Sudan
2. Hale Center
3. Lockney
4. Morton
5. Crosbyton
6. Ralls

DC
TX

David Campbell
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

PLAINS COWBOYS (135)

Coach: Daniel Purvis. Letterman R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jeremiah Gonzalez (5-9, 165, 4.5), WR/DB Brandon Cantu (5-8, 155, 4.6), WR/LB Maddox Murrell (5-11, 165, 4.9), WR/LB Brady Robles (5-10, 175, 4.9), WR/DB Daniel Longoria (5-9, 160, 4.6), RB/LB Colter Guetersloh (6-1, 170, 5.0), WR/DB Cross Blount.

2025 notes: New coach Purvis, promoted from defensive coordinator, takes over. The Cowboys do have quite the experience returning. The good news comes on the perimeter with WR Cantu (800 yards) and Gonzalez making up a dangerous combination on the outside.

ROPES EAGLES (161)

Coach: Beau Riker. Letterman R/L: 19/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 12-2 regional finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: FB/LB Kaden Riker (6-3, 185, 4.7), TE/DL Victor Saenz (6-0, 210, 4.9), WR/DB Branson Simental (5-8, 155, 4.7), WR/DB Kolter Dockery (5-7, 150, 4.5), OL/LB Kanon Buckner (5-8, 190, 4.9), RB/LB Ryland Keith (5-8, 165, 4.7), QB/DB Zayden Pittman (5-10, 155, 4.8), OL/DL Tyler Harbuck (6-2, 255, 5.2), OL/DL Broxton Varnell, OL/DL Jack Lehnen, OL/DL Brent Buckner, OL/DL Elijah Flores, WR/DB Maddux Sierra.

2025 notes: The Eagles continue to soar under coach Riker with the upcoming season looking like another big year. Fresh off a run to the regional final, Ropesville is optimistic to make another December push. Building on that future is standout LB Riker (200 tackles), the reigning district Defensive MVP.

SEAGRAVES EAGLES (158)

Coach: Armando Minjarez. Letterman R/L: 20/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Hugo Rascon (5-8, 160, 4.7), FB/DL Bradyn Mijares (6-0, 190, 4.8), OL/DL Robert Valles (5-10, 195, 4.9), QB Zane Thompson (5-7, 155, 4.9), RB/LB Devin Espino (5-8, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Lupe Holguin

(5-8, 225, 5.0), QB/DB LJ Minjarez (5-7, 140, 4.7), WR/LB/K Adrian Rodriguez (5-7, 145, 4.9), Lucas Minjarez (5-8, 170, 4.9), WR/DB/P Jacobo Torres, RB/DB Josiah Conde, OL/DL Daniel Angulo, RB/LB Jose Vasquez.

2025 notes: Running the wishbone offense always gives opposing defenses headaches. It's more difficult when RB Espino (758 yards, 8 TDs rushing) and Rascon (450 yards) are in the backfield. Rascon also makes a big difference on defense. The QB situation will be up to Thompson and LJ Minjarez.

SMYER BOBCATS (132)

Coach: Scott Funke. Letterman R/L: 20/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Skyler Pond (5-9, 150, 4.6), RB/DB Max Benevides (5-11, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Caleb Pearce (5-9, 185, 5.2), WR/DB Ryan Gutierrez (5-10, 150, 4.7), TE/LB Wes Tevis (5-9, 160, 4.7), FB/LB Alex Mattox (5-8, 160, 4.8), WR/DB James Rampy (5-8, 135, 4.8), OL/DL Micah Stevens (6-2, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Chase Chaparro, WR/DB Hagen Cooper, WR/DB Tango Pastusek, WR/DB Sebastian Rodriguez.

2025 notes: Coming off a winless season, the expectation is not only to win games but with 17 returning starters, there is a plan to make a run at the playoffs. The biggest strength is definitely on offense. QB Pond (1,101 yards) is in his second year as the starter.

SUNDOWN ROUGHNECKS (177)

Coach: Brannon Rodgers. Letterman R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/10. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Andrew Rodriguez (6-0, 240), RB/LB Trevor Bridges (6-0, 175), TE/DL Nathan McAdams (6-4, 180), RB/DB Marcus Solis (5-10, 165), TE/DL Josh Hogan (6-2, 200), RB/LB Brayson Frey (5-10, 200), OL/DL Brayden Longoria (5-10, 230), RB/LB Jeremiah Reyes (5-6, 140), QB/DB Coen Neveraz, RB/LB Dago Chagoya, RB/DB Braiden Lara, WR/DB Ethan Morales, RB/LB Gabriel Sanchez, OL/DL Christian Quintana, RB/LB Toby Lopez.

ELDORADO EAGLES (163)

Coach: William Robledo. Letterman R/L: 12/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jonnie Rae Adame (5-8, 150, 4.8), TE/LB Garrett Walling (6-1, 200, 4.9), WR/DB Brason Brock (5-8, 150, 4.9), OL/LB Marcos Flynn (5-10, 220, 5.2), OL/DL Jaetn Chancellor (6-3, 315, 5.5), WR/DB Kip Walker (5-8, 150, 4.7).

2025 notes: Robledo took the Eagles to the postseason in his first season at the helm. With a full offseason in his program, he expects to collect gold footballs this year. QB/DB Adame (1,812 yards, 18 TDs passing) made an impression as a junior and took a step forward during the offseason. WR/DB Brock (5 INTs) is a ballhawk in the secondary and leads the defense.

IRAAN BRAVES (109)

Coach: Berry Bowman. Letterman R/L: 28/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Prather Schneemann (5-10, 170, 4.9), WR/DB Cristian Buitron (5-8, 170, 4.8), RB Aiden Mendoza (5-6, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Zack Brannon (5-11, 275, 5.4), OL/DL Juan Martinez (5-10, 240, 5.3), FB/LB Danny Reyes (5-9, 175, 4.9), WR/LB Alex Reyes (5-9, 185, 4.9), ATH Fabian Monclova (6-2, 210, 4.9), ATH Steven Pisony (5-7, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Tres Sanchez, WR/DB Kaden Smith, WR/LB Andrew Gallegos.

2025 notes: Coming off their best year since 2018, the Braves are ready to prove that their success wasn't a fluke. Bowman thinks that Iraan's strength will come from experience in the trenches and the play of QB/DB Schneemann. The Braves have nearly quadrupled their offensive yardage since Bowman's first year and are looking for simple schemes to be successful.

MCCAMEY BADGERS (139)

Coach: Andrew Fellows. Letterman R/L: 36/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 3-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Aiden Torres (5-11, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Gregg Hodges (6-3, 280), OL/DL Landon Smith (5-10, 245), WR/DB Braiden Garcia-Cox (5-8, 145, 4.7), FB/LB Niko Lujan (5-6, 160, 4.9), RB/DL

Donovon Young (5-8, 175), WR/DB Ja'Markas Smith (6-0, 155, 4.6), WR/DB Ja'Zaiah Smith (6-0, 160, 4.6), QB/DB Trace McMurphy (6-3, 165, 4.5), RB/LB Lexx DeLeon, WR/DB Wesley Mills, LB Steven Rodriguez, OL/DL Brylie Nelson, OL/DL Oriol Rodriguez.

2025 notes: QB/DB Torres is the unquestioned team leader and will lead the offense behind the athletic OL/DL Hodges. OL/DL Smith, a junior, is entering his third year as a starter and plays physically with a high football IQ. WR/DB Garcia-Cox is expected to be the primary target on offense while FB/LB Lujan has a nose for the ball on defense.

STERLING CITY EAGLES (136)

Coach: Open. Letterman R/L: 22/7. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Sheldon Coxey (5-11, 165, 4.8), OL/DL Slate Clark (6-1, 217, 5.2), OL/DL Anson Parrish (6-6, 221, 5.1), RB/DL Steve Monreal (5-7, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Vance Davis (5-9, 153, 4.9), OL/DL Aaven Helms (6-3, 225, 5.0), OL/DL Coda Tatso (5-11, 205, 5.2), TE/DE Lincoln McElroy (6-2, 172, 5.1), OL/DL Miles Orsak (5-10, 218, 5.2), WR/LB Rett Dickison, RB/LB Evan Aguirre, WR/DB Xander Gaston, RB/LB Wraice Blackwelder, OL/DL Cason McCreia, LB Ryder Davis.

2025 notes: Entering its second year as an 11-man program, Sterling City is excited about what this season will hold — even with a new head coach. The reason: the Eagles return their entire offensive and defensive lines. The players up front will be responsible for protecting QB/LB Coxey as the junior transitions from running back. OL/DLs Clark and Parrish are tough and relentless.

VAN HORN EAGLES (129)

Coach: Brock Tyrrell. Letterman R/L: 16/5. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL MJ Baeza (6-4, 265), DB Leeland Perry (6-2, 185), LB Zack Corral (5-9, 165), RB/LB Zayden Segura (5-5, 145), QB/DB Jesus Urias (5-10, 165), QB/DB Ethan Gary (5-10, 150).

2025 notes: Getting a young team experience will be

District 3-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Dante Garcia, Tahoka

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Kaden Riker, Ropes

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Ropesville Ropes
2. Seagraves
3. Sundown
4. Tahoka
5. Smyer
6. Plains

2025 notes: With 18 lettermen and 18 starters returning, not only is improvement expected but depth always rises at a certain position. For Sundown, that's the RB spot. Solis, Frey and Lara make up quite the backfield for the run-heavy Gun-T offense. QB Neveraz can also use his feet.

TAHOKA BULLDOGS (169)

Coach: Cody Bounds. Letterman R/L: 10/17. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 10-3 regional semifinalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Dante Garcia (5-10, 170, 4.7), FB/LB Sam Kessler (5-8, 175), WR/DB Benny Arguello (5-8, 160, 4.8), OL/DL Oscar Rendon (6-0, 240), TE/DL Caleb Watt (6-0, 185), RB/DB Uziah Martinez (5-7, 160), ATH Remington Stone, ATH Martin Vera-Carlton, TE/DL Kylan Barcheers.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs are replacing a lot from a very successful team that made it three rounds deep a year ago. ATH Garcia gives Bounds versatility, being able to play all over the offense if needed. If Garcia isn't utilized at QB, Stone is another prospect in the mix at the position. WR/DB Arguello (97 tackles) is a key weapon back on defense.

the name of the game for the Eagles as they will have just one senior on the roster this season. Tyrrell isn't worried about that being detrimental to the team as those on the roster fight hard and stick together in every situation.

WINK WILDCATS (150)

Coach: Brian Gibson. Letterman R/L: 20/10. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 11-2 region semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Kemyd Faciane (5-10, 190, 4.7), WR/LB Cade Frerich (6-2, 200, 4.8), QB/DB Layne Lusby (5-10, 175, 4.8), QB/DB Gunner Voyles (5-10, 150, 4.9), ATH Alex Soltero (5-9, 200, 4.9), OL/DL Kobe Valenzuela (6-0, 240, 5.2), OL/DL Ja'Kovien Robertson (6-0, 220, 5.2), OL/DL Ty Valenzuela (6-2, 225, 5.3), OL/DL Alijah Brito (6-4, 220, 5.3), RB/LB Alec Berzoza, WR/DB Ean Barron, WR/DB Timothy Montoya, OL Nicholas Smithhart, DL Hugo Torres, OL/DL Jaime Ruiz, TE/LB Austin Evans.

2025 notes: RB Faciane (2,002 yards, 28 TDs rushing) is the "heartbeat of the offense," while WR/LB Frerich has tremendous upside and brings a dynamic ability to the field. ATH Soltero will see time at several positions and is expected to play a huge role.

District 4-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kemyd Faciane, Wink

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Prather Schneemann, Iraan

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Wink
2. Iraan
3. Eldorado
4. McCamey
5. Sterling City
6. Van Horn

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CLARENDON BRONCOS (138)

Coach: Jeff Caffey. Letterman R/L: 23/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Heston Seay (5-8, 185), OL/DL Ranger Drenth (5-10, 235), OL/DL Hayden Moore (6-0, 230), WR/DB Caleb Herbert (5-10, 150), RB Parker Haynes (5-6, 165), OL/DL Max Caudle (5-11, 225), WR/LB Dakotah Jameson, WR/DB Creed Robinson.

2025 notes: New coach Caffey, formerly Colorado City's DC, takes over; he's got HC experience at Shamrock and Slaton. He inherits four returning starters on the OL, led by Slay. Drenth and Moore are up-and-comers, and Caudle will help bring stability for Clarendon to run the football. It's now about getting the skill players to complement.

MEMPHIS CYCLONES (137)

Coach: David Jurado. Letterman R/L: 9/13. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 2-7/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Armando Saenz (5-10, 175), OL/DL Eli Martin (6-2, 315), WR/DB Dresden Johnson (6-0, 170), TE/LB Ismael Rodriguez (5-10, 185), RB/LB Daniel Salazar (5-9, 175), OL/DL Andres Rodriguez (5-10, 215), WR/DB Ethan Perkins.

2025 notes: The Cyclones will have great leadership with a solid senior class and more depth than recent years. QB Saenz takes over the quarterback duties for good and has the work ethic to be successful. RB Salazar (382 yards) is going to help take the pressure off and OL Martin is the key to the trenches. WR/DB Johnson can dominate both sides of the ball and DB Perkins is a big contributor.

QUANAH INDIANS (143)

Coach: Mike Bowling. Letterman R/L: 17/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Lexston Reese (5-8, 160, 4.6), RB/LB Nick Gonzales (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL/DL Charlie Call (6-3, 240, 5.1), QB Prather Parr (6-1, 185, 4.8), TE/LB Blayton Chandler (6-0, 185, 4.8), LB Kasen Choat (5-9, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Chico Vizcaino (6-1, 250,

5.2), OL/DL Isiah Silvas (5-10, 245, 5.3), WR/DB Caleb Martinez (6-0, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Ryan Deel, OL/DL Carter Luna, WR/DB Gavin Longoria, RB/LB Branson Ischomer, OL/DL Diego Nunez, RB/DB Lukas Whitmire.

2025 notes: RB Reese (800 yards, 10 TDs rushing) had a phenomenal freshman year with heavy expectations surrounding him as a sophomore. RB Gonzales (600 yards, 10 TDs rushing) is there to share the carries and make up a very strong backfield. OL Call is who both running backs are wanting to run behind, and QB Parr should be more comfortable after getting valuable time as the signal-caller last year.

SHAMROCK FIGHTING IRISH (99.5)

Coach: Nate Skelton. Letterman R/L: 7/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/Josh Whittington (6-0, 170, 4.6), ATH Cross Stambaugh (5-9, 150, 4.7), WR/DB Giovanni Lopez (5-8, 155, 4.7), OL/DL Kyle Ishee (6-1, 210, 4.8), TE/DL JD Franks, RB/LB Michael Reyes (5-9, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Trent Baggett (5-10, 150, 4.8), WR/LB Layton Gilbert.

2025 notes: Under Skelton, Shamrock has never lacked talented skill players. This year won't be any different with explosive leading WR Whittington (710 yards, 8 receiving TDs) returning. WR Stambaugh (476 yards) flew under the radar last season, but that is going to be difficult a year later. WR Lopez (351 yards, 7 receiving TDs) is another talent to keep an eye on. The question for the Irish is, who replaces QB Philip Cook?

WELLINGTON SKYROCKETS (162.5)

Coach: Greg Proffitt. Letterman R/L: 12/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Noah Cantu, OL/DL Dixon Dugan, OL/LB Kingston Molina, QB/DB Callen Kane, OL/DL Yobani Moreno, OL/DL Hunter Hendrick, RB/LB Gunner Guy, RB/LB Conner Bowen, ATH/DB Kamron Brooks, TE/LB Gustavo Soto, OL/LB KJ Molina, WR/DB Armando Hinojosa, WR/DB Major Brown, WR/DB Carson Kane.

2025 notes: It's always about reloading instead of rebuilding in Wellington. RB Cantu (628 yards, 12

District 5-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Callen Kane, Wellington

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Jackson Graves, Wheeler

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Wellington | 5. Clarendon |
| 2. Wheeler | 6. Memphis |
| 3. Quanah | |
| 4. Shamrock | |

TDs rushing) makes the reloading process easier. RB Guy and Bowen make up depth in the backfield, and QB Kane (1,794, 25 passing TDs) being a year older helps. Kane came into his own last season giving the Skyrockets a passing threat. LB Molina (95 tackles) is the next in line of great defensive players to come through the program.

WHEELER MUSTANGS (117)

Coach: Matt Hoover. Letterman R/L: 15/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Jackson Graves (6-4, 240, 4.7), WR/DB Garrett Ashurst (5-8, 160, 4.7), QB/DB Creed Newkirk (5-11, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Diego Soto (6-0, 215, 4.9), WR/LB Abraham Sigala (6-3, 195, 4.6), RB/LB Chris Gallardo (5-9, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Israel Andrade (6-0, 180, 4.6).

2025 notes: Wheeler is coming off its best season in six years. While the running back position is in question, QB Newkirk (792 yards rushing; 623 yards passing) is just as good of a runner as he is a passer. DL Graves (108 tackles) is a very talented player and a leader on the defense. LB Soto (95 tackles) is another key aspect on the defense.

ARCHER CITY WILDCATS (143)

Coach: Bradan Ritchey. Letterman R/L: 15/13. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Shooter Canada (6-3, 265), OL/DL Zech Allen (5-8, 255), OL/DL Brody Reneau (5-9, 185), RB/DB Cason Booher (5-7, 155), TE/LB Jake Strenski (6-1, 180), QB/WR/DB Parker Hilbers (5-6, 140), OL/DL Hunter Hall (5-11, 300), WR/DB Gage McCord (5-7, 155), RB/QB/LB Seth Truette (5-9, 165), WR/LB/DB Maddox Mayo, WR/DB Reed Truette, OL/DL Nathan Trapp, WR/DB Cy Wooldridge, WR/DB Jesse Cantu.

2025 notes: The Wildcats return a host of proven linemen starting with Canada, Reneau and Allen. That'll help Archer City's offense as it breaks in a new backfield. Expect a breakout year from versatile QB/WR/DB Hilbers.

ELECTRA TIGERS (131)

Coach: Josh Ritchey. Letterman R/L: 8/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Braylon Nava, RB/LB Micah Booth, OL/DL Braydon Huffstutler, WR/DB Cordarian Duncan, WR/DB Nate DeLeon, RB/LB Austin Lacher, OL/DL Isaac Fonseca.

2025 notes: Longtime Amarillo Tascosa offensive coordinator Ritchey takes over the Tigers and will look to build on a solid foundation. LBs Nava and Booth bring physicality to the Tigers' defense.

HASKELL INDIANS (150.5)

Coach: Creighton Henderson. Letterman R/L: 19/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Haegan Pinkerton (5-11, 165, 4.4), WR/LB Ethan Camacho (5-10, 175, 4.5), TE/LB Beaux Shaginaw (5-9, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Zakeem Billington (6-0, 155, 4.5), WR/DB Brazos Brendle (5-7, 150, 4.8), TE/LB Brian Weng (6-0, 165, 4.8), OL/DL Jaxon Torres (5-9, 210, 5.1), OL/DL Gabriel Exiga (5-10, 245, 5.3), OL/DL Temathy Bolden (5-10, 230, 5.4), WR/DB Mathew Gober, TE/LB Colton Gober, WR/DB Heath Greer, WR/LB Damien Cenicerros, OL/DL Nick Shaginaw, OL/DL Brandt Turner, OL/DL Jaxon Torres.

2025 notes: Henderson, who had been

Wellington's OC, takes over a program that should return to the playoffs. Dual-threat QB Pinkerton can score on any play. The Indians need to find some linemen and a running back, but they have a speedy weapon in Camacho.

MUNDAY MOGULS (104)

Coach: Brandon Langston. Letterman R/L: 14/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 4-6/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Haiden Bowman (6-1, 170, 4.8), RB/LB Kiyryn Wilson (5-11, 175, 4.7), UTIL Ja'Riyas Williams (6-5, 185, 4.7), OL/DL AJ Ibarra (6-1, 230), OL/DL Adrian Carmona (6-3, 230), OL/DL Abraham Gonzalez, WR/DL Carson Breedlove, WR/DB Josh Dockins.

2025 notes: The Moguls could battle for a playoff spot with experienced skill positions and size up front. QB Bowman is running the offense for the third straight season.

PETROLIA PIRATES (134)

Coach: Brad Blassingame. Letterman R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Brodie Jackson (5-10, 170, 4.7), RB/DB Josh Dagenaeis (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Rocky Gee (6-3, 240), RB/LB Kason Gee (5-9, 155, 4.6). Top junior: RB/DB Hayden Pierson, QB/DB Cody Cox, WR/DB Greyson Elledge, WR/DB Sawyer Dunn, OL/DL Christopher Vallance.

2025 notes: A surprise playoff team last year, the Pirates hope to build off that success in Blassingame's second season. Jackson will be a focal point in the Wing-T as the Pirates' backfield has experience.

SEYMOUR PANTHERS (170)

Coach: Tarrington Rivers. Letterman R/L: 19/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/2-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Jerry Fobbs (6-0, 180), WR/DB Tyler Whitfield (5-10, 170), WR/LB Keaton Anderson (5-8, 165), WR/DL Avery Parrish (6-0, 185), WR/LB Jaxon Carrington (5-10, 175), OL Aydin Lamel (6-0, 240), OL/DL Calyn Chism, OL/DL Sam

Silva, OL/DL Ryder Willden, OL/DL Tanner Moore, WR/DB Hunter Scott, WR/DB Matthew Strickland.

2025 notes: Seymour is expecting a return to the postseason after ending a nine-year playoff streak. The Panthers lost most of their offensive firepower to graduation, so they'll need WR Whitfield and Carrington to step up for whoever becomes quarterback.

WINDTHORST TROJANS (140)

Coach: Chris Tackett. Letterman R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 11-2 regional semifinalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Brock Belcher (6-0, 181), WR Jaxon Stark (6-4, 205), OL Aiden McQuerry (5-11, 225), LB Connor Schreiber (5-9, 168), RB Hunter Anderle (5-6, 155), OL Max Kolar (5-10, 200), RB/LB Adam Barton (5-10, 190), DL Hayden Cavazos (6-1, 210), WR/DB Aiden Stark (6-0, 165), DL Israel Larios, WR/DB Daxton Anderson, OL Joel Anzua, K Brodie Belz, OL/DL Landyn Hale, OL/DL Eddie Vieth, TE Rodie Yearian.

2025 notes: The Trojans are the favorites to repeat in 6-2A as Belcher returns for his third year as the starting quarterback. LB Schreiber is back healthy again to lead a defense returning eight starters.

District 6-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Brock Belcher, Windthorst

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Brodie Jackson, Petrolia

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Windthorst | 5. Archer City |
| 2. Petrolia | 6. Seymour |
| 3. Haskell | 7. Munday |
| 4. Electra | |

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ALBANY LIONS (170)

Coach: Denney Faith. Lettermen R/L: 20/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 9-3 region semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Huffman Heatley (6-0, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Calhan Fairchild (6-0, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Tristian Hare (6-4, 250), RB/LB Breyton Billington (5-7, 145, 4.7), OL/DL Ryan Turner (5-11, 160), WR/DB Jaxson Street (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Adrian Wren (6-1, 195), OL/DL Zane Green (6-0, 185), QB Clay Chapman (6-0, 165), RB/LB Shaun Keen, RB/LB Woods Peterson, RB/LB Bennett Neece, TE/LB Hollis Yates, TE/DL Brody Oliver, OL/DL Jackson Shock, OL/DL Tony Wheeler, OL/DL Shooter Shoaf.

2025 notes: The Lions are prepared for a deep playoff run this season with nearly all of their starters returning from a regional semifinalist. QB Chapman is set to make his presence known and will benefit from the experience of senior WR/DBs Heatley and Fairchild. RB/LB Billington had a quiet year as a junior and Albany has high expectations for the quick back.

CROSS PLAINS BUFFALOES (102.5)

Coach: Jared Sanderson. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Tyler Mackey (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL/DL Colt Sanderson (6-2, 250, 5.2), OL/LB Jesse Bradford (5-8, 225, 4.9), RB Kevin Hopkins (5-8, 165, 4.5), OL/DL Luke Henry (6-0, 285, 5.7), QB/DB Landry Savell (5-10, 175, 4.8), WR/DL Rylen Reed, OL/DL Lawson Brown, WR/DB Colter Wedeking, LB Anson Long.

2025 notes: ATH Mackey is a dynamic player that new coach Jared Sanderson can plug in anywhere on the field. OL/DL Colt Sanderson, a four-year starter, has a big frame and can play multiple positions on both sides.

HAMLIN PIED PIPERS (103.5)

Coach: Jason Botos. Lettermen R/L: 14/9. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 6-4 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Kyson McGee (6-2, 205, 4.7),

WR/DB Luke White (6-1, 180, 4.8), QB/DB Ian Gruben (5-11, 180, 5.0), RB/LB Hudson Smith (5-10, 180, 4.9), ATH Isaiah Hutchings (5-9, 160, 4.7), OL Cade Jones (6-3, 250, 5.5), RB/DB Reece Rainey (5-11, 170, 4.7), TE/LB Rowdy Holden (5-10, 175, 4.8), RB/DB Jayden Garner (5-6, 145, 4.8), WR/DE Collin Ryan, ATH Zane Leonard, WR/DB Hagan Holland, OL/DL Kaleb Benavidez, OL/LB Derrick Lechuga, OL/FB McKennon Warren, OL/DL Jedediah White, OL/DL Logan Aguilar.

2025 notes: Entering their third year under Botos, the Pipers are ready to open the playbook and let it fly as ATH Hutchings returns from injury and will battle QB/DB Gruben for the primary position leading the offense. All three offensive starters that Hamlin lost from last year's squad were on the offensive line and the Pipers need their replacements to learn to work together.

MILES BULLDOGS (150)

Coach: Jayson Wilhelm. Lettermen R/L: 6/12. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Liam Yancy (5-9, 155), LB Dalton Fischer (6-0, 200), OL Jaxon Hohensee (5-11, 220), WR/DB Kaden Karmany (5-8, 160), LB Caleb Guzman (5-10, 170), RB Ryder Satapauhoodle (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: Graduation hit the Bulldogs hard, but Wilhelm does have some big talent returning to the program in a quartet of juniors. QB Yancy will be looking for new targets in the passing game. LB Fischer is the anchor of the defense.

ROSCOE PLOWBOYS (175)

Coach: Dan Loyd. Lettermen R/L: 19/4. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 4-6 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jace Arnwine (5-9, 170, 4.9), WR/DB Braxton Smith (6-0, 165, 4.9), OL/DL Nate Jones (5-10, 5.0), OL/LB Aidan Brown (6-1, 5.0), OL/DL Kalum Underwood (5-11, 5.3), RB/DE Tylan Bathrop (5-11, 225, 4.8), WR/LB Alan Montoya (5-7, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Mason Alford (6-0, 150, 4.8), WR/LB Carter Gleaton (5-6, 140, 4.6), OL/DL Elijah Speck, OL/DL Dawson Heaps, WR/DB

Hunter (6-0, 205, 5.0), QB/LB Walker Boyet (6-1, 195, 4.8), OL/DL Luke Meyers, RB/DB Adrian Lira, TE/DL Levi Harris, OL/DL Wyatt Anderle, WR/DB Austin Barclay, OL/DL Jack Slider, OL/DL JJ Ulloa.

2025 notes: The Hornets returned to the playoffs in Mann's first season, and they'll have the talent to contend for a playoff spot again. QB Thomason is coming off a dynamic sophomore season, and big-bodied WR Reed will have an expanded role. LB Boyet is a stalwart on defense for the Hornets.

LINDSAY KNIGHTS (146)

Coach: Casey Jones. Lettermen R/L: 18/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Lane Foster (5-11, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Mason Myers (6-0, 175, 4.5), RB/LB Zach Metzler (6-0, 200, 4.7), WR/DB Joe Manhart (6-1, 170, 4.7), OL/DL Caden Lloyd (6-0, 275, 5.4), OL/DL Caleb Garner (6-0, 210, 5.2), RB/LB Casen Williford (6-0, 200, 4.7), OL/LB Wes Swaney (5-10, 220, 5.4), RB/LB Braxton Ice, RB/DL Cutter Cheaney.

2025 notes: The Knights – who averaged 37 points per game last year – could be even better offensively this fall by returning most of their skill players and linemen. QB Foster will be running Lindsay's option-based offense for the third straight year, while WR Manhart is a big-play threat. Garner and Lloyd are three-year starters in the trenches.

MUENSTER HORNETS (168)

Coach: Brady Carney. Lettermen R/L: 13/13. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 14-2 state champion/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Casen Carney (5-9, 165, 4.7), TE Garrett Hess (6-3, 190), RB Nolan Peel (5-9, 190), OL Kyle Leidell (5-8, 240), LB Simon Johnson (5-9, 160), WR Maverick Bayer (5-8, 170), DL Colt Walterscheid (5-8, 245), OL Zadoc Schilling (6-0, 190), RB Dustyn Croft, DL Rhett Walterscheid, DB Mason Mills, DB Jake Wheeler, DB Jeremiah Franklin, LB Brady Klement, RB Legend Bounds, DB Deegan Neu, LB Brody Baggs.

2025 notes: Muenster will have a legitimate chance to defend its championship as the Hornets

District 7-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jace Arnwine, Roscoe

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Huffman Heatley, Albany

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Albany
2. Roscoe
3. Hamlin
4. Miles
5. Cross Plains
6. Winters

Kash Hope, WR/DB Barrett Floyd, OL/DL Harley Stuard, WR/LB Kyle Martin, K David Villa, OL/DL Aiden Sellers.

2025 notes: The Plowboys are in a position to make a deep playoff run this year as Loyd takes over with a deep group of seniors, led by QB/DB Arnwine and WR/DB Smith. Smith established himself as Arnwine's go-to receiver as a junior and should benefit from the implementation of Loyd's spread offense.

WINTERS BLIZZARDS (144)

Coach: Ryan Pannell. Lettermen R/L: 20/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Mark Moreno, RB/LB Caleb Rutherford, WR/DB Jonah Whitaker, OL/DL Sandro Perez, OL/DL Mason Meyer, OL/DL Braden Hoppe, OL/DL John Pierce, WR/DB Nolan Martinez, RB/BL Haydin Collins, WR/DB Ajay Soto, WR/DB Anthony Ramirez, OL/LB Nolan Davis, OL/DL Carter Jacob, RB/LB Jorge Malagon, RB/LB Alex Pena, TE/LB Coy Martinez, OL/DL Sandro Perez.

2025 notes: New coach Pannell inherits a team high on upside but low on numbers; staying healthy will be critical. RB/DE Moreno and RB/LB Rutherford are a dynamic backfield pairing.

CHICO DRAGONS (144)

Coach: Jason Sanders. Lettermen R/L: 18/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Karrington Ransom (5-10, 215, 4.8), OL/DL Jaxson Wilder (6-0, 215), RB/LB Eddie Banuelos (6-0, 195, 4.8), OL/DL Chris Hughes (6-1, 205), WR/LB Talon Smith (6-1, 180, 4.9), QB/DB Aron Mendoza (5-9, 150, 4.7), OL/DL Christian Orona, OL/DL Moses McIver, WR/DB Emiliano Quezada, WR/QB/DB Jesse Maese, OL/DL Jaxon Sherrod.

2025 notes: Ransom will run behind an offensive line returning four starters and brings leadership at middle linebacker, joining DL Wilder and LB Banuelos in the 4-3 front. Hughes and Smith lead a strong junior class, while Mendoza is a QB candidate after playing wideout as a sophomore.

COLLINSVILLE PIRATES (157)

Coach: Garrett Patterson. Lettermen R/L: 19/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jaxon Jenkins (5-11, 160, 4.6), WR Chad Davidson (5-8, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Russell Carney (6-0, 210, 4.9), RB/LB Chase Sheppard (5-8, 165, 4.7), OL Cooper McMillian (6-4, 260, 5.1), K Isaiah Smith (5-10, 150, 4.7), WR/DB Paxton Davidson (5-11, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Caysen Schafer (6-0, 160, 4.8), RB/DL Landry Spivey, WR/LB Jaxon Spivey, RB Brandon Cantu.

2025 notes: Expect the Pirates to be a regional title contender again. One reason why is QB Jenkins, who shined as a sophomore. Fellow junior Davidson is back as a big-play threat, while RBs Cantu and Sheppard provide depth at the skill positions. The Pirates will be able to outscore most teams, but DL Carney and LB Sheppard help provide an imposing defensive front.

ERA HORNETS (160)

Coach: Tanner Mann. Lettermen R/L: 13/11. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Cope Thomason (6-0, 180, 4.7), WR/LB Hagen Reed (6-1, 195, 4.6), RB/DB Jett Tuggle (5-11, 190, 4.6), RB/LB Landon Boyet (6-0, 205, 4.9), OL/DL Ty Petty (6-0, 275, 5.5), OL/LB Gage

bring back more than half of their title team, including dual-threat QB Carney. They will have to replace some key offensive linemen, but TE Hess and Peel give them a "Big Three" offensively that'll be tough to stop. LB Johnson is the leader of a Muenster defense that allowed only 16 points per game in 2024.

SANTO WILDCATS (157)

Coach: Devon Mann. Lettermen R/L: 16/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Rylan Griffith (5-9, 150), RB/LB Jackson McKinnerney (5-10, 185), DL Luke Sides (6-1, 238, 4.9), OL Brody Chapman (6-3, 282), RB/LB Justin Hollingsworth (5-11, 170), OL/DL Michael Lockwood (5-11, 235), WR/DB Caleb Masters (6-0, 160), WR/DB Zeke Lopez (5-10, 155), RB/LB Colt Bridges (5-10, 165, 4.7), OL/DL Juan Olvera, OL/DL Porter Winbourn.

2025 notes: Santo will rely on a defense that returns eight starters and a strong sophomore class led by QB Griffith, who knows how to run the flexbone. McKinnerney is a versatile runner bouncing back from injury and will team up with Hollingsworth to make a formidable backfield. Chapman and Sides will lead the Wildcats' offensive and defensive fronts, respectively.

District 8-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Casen Carney, Muenster

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Russell Carney, Collinsville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Muenster
2. Collinsville
3. Lindsay
4. Santo
5. Era
6. Chico

DC
TX

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CELESTE BLUE DEVILS (157)

Coach: Demetrius Rector. Lettermen R/L: 8/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 2-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Levi Gross (6-1, 170), QB/LB Case Kittieson (5-10, 150), RB/LB Case Reisor (5-8, 150), OL J.J. Mitchell (5-11, 180), OL/DL Kayvian Dalton (6-3, 200), WR/DB Kaleb Adams (5-10, 160). Top juniors: OL/DL Hunter Bolton (5-9, 160), OL/DL Harvey McFee (6-1, 230). Top sophomore: OL/DL Domic Wilson (6-0, 220).

2025 notes: The Blue Devils need consistency on offense to turn things around after being blanked three times and scoring a TD or less in six games, despite scoring 49 points in one win and 48 in another loss. The defense must also improve after giving up nearly 37 points per game. Gross and Kittieson will battle for playing time at QB, while Reisor returns to handle most of the ball-carrying duties. Keep an eye on sophomore OL/DL Wilson.

CLARKSVILLE TIGERS (165)

Coach: Thavis Miller. Lettermen R/L: 36/3. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Jonathan Morgan (6-0, 200), WR Jordan Daniels (5-10, 170, 4.4), OL Jakylin Battle (6-4, 325), WR KD Taylor (5-10, 165, 4.5), TE/LB Braden Rosser (6-0, 205), DB Pedro Ortiz (6-0, 155, 4.5). Top juniors: RB Semaj Harris (5-8, 215, 4.8), DL Anthony Emanuel (6-1, 290). Top sophomore: DB Mikel Watkins (5-6, 155, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL/DL Elijah Davis, RB/DB Christian Smith, DB Tony Gray, DB/WR Ayden Rosser, QB Santana Beaty, OL/DL Tristan Nunez, DB Armon Moore.

2025 notes: The Tigers did all of their damage in district play after a slow start in 2024, and should be in great shape offensively to keep the momentum going. Morgan (2,874 yards, 37 TDs passing; 329 yards, 8 TDs rushing) returns under center, and has dangerous weapons all around him in WRs Daniels (810 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and Taylor (654 yards, 9 TDs receiving) and RB Harris (784 yards, 9 TDs rushing).

CUMBY TROJANS (121)

Coach: Ronnie Green. Lettermen R/L: 14/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Channing Herman (5-10, 170), WR Chayton Herman (5-11, 170), RB Dakari Johnson (5-10, 170), DB Gunner Campbell (5-9, 165), LB Canyon Talley (5-10, 170), DL Jusber Nena (5-11, 180). Top juniors: DB Kolby Vandiver (6-1, 180), WR/DB Jace Evans (5-11, 165). Top sophomore: OL Robert Goode (6-0, 210).

Other prospects: WR Osvaldo Ruiz, WR/LB Hunter McPherson, OL/DL Jaxson Hudson, RB Mitchell Kerby.

2025 notes: The Trojans turned things around in district play and earned a playoff spot in Green's first season. Several experienced players are back, but the team needs to stay healthy since depth is a concern. Expect Johnson (1,032 yards, 11 TDs rushing) and Vaughan (615 yards, 8 TDs receiving) to handle most of the touches on offense, and Talley brings a physical, veteran presence to the defensive side of the ball.

DETROIT EAGLES (148)

Coach: Paul Johnston. Lettermen R/L: 25/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 2-7/2-4 district.

2025 notes: The Eagles improved their numbers across the board in Johnston's first season a year ago. After winning three games in three years, Detroit picked up two victories – both in district play – and went from scoring 5.2 points per game to putting 19.6 points on the board each week while allowing 37.4 points after giving up 40.5 per outing the season before. Good numbers return on both sides of the ball, so the upswing should continue.

District 9-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Jonathan Morgan, Clarksville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Huntley Ott, Maud

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Clarksville | 5. Detroit |
| 2. Maud | 6. Celeste |
| 3. Simms Bowie | 7. Linden-Kildare |
| 4. Cumby | |

LINDEN-KILDARE TIGERS (180)

Coach: Dillon Surratt. Lettermen R/L: 6/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 0-10/0-6 district.

Players to watch: QB Keegan Salers (5-10, 175, 4.6), OL Kason Liles (6-3, 307, 5.5), WR Chance Kirkland (6-0, 175, 4.7), RB/WR Breckin Wells (5-11, 180, 4.8), RB/WR Jakory Love (5-8, 160, 4.6), WR/LB Maddox Hankins (6-0, 190, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Kevin Chavez.

2025 notes: First-year head coach Surratt doesn't shy away from his well-known name (he's the nephew of 10-time state champ Scott Surratt at Carthage), but his focus is on turning around a 10-loss team. QB Salers is an athletic, rangy running and passing threat, and he'll operate behind Liles, a big, athletic OL who can move. RB Love is an explosive player who makes folks miss and is primed for a breakout season.

MAUD CARDINALS (143)

Coach: Josh Turner. Lettermen R/L: 20/4. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Huntley Ott (5-11, 190, 4.9), QB/DB Ryker Bailey (5-9, 150, 4.8), LB/RB Brady Allison (6-0, 185, 4.9), DL/TE Jayms Howerton (6-0, 200, 4.8), RB/DB Noah Howerton (6-0, 165, 4.9), WR/DB Ian Butler (6-1, 150, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Ayden Atkinson (6-2, 270, 5.4), DL Aidan Acosta (5-9, 330, 5.8). Top sophomore: OL Rex Foster (6-0, 250, 5.5).

Other prospects: OL/DL Jaxon Braley, OL/DL Rickey Sisemore, RB/DB Elijah Collins, OL/DL Dax Cunningham, RB/LB Tristian Wharton, OL/DL Andrew Roberts.

2025 notes: A midseason change in the offensive scheme helped the Cardinals make a complete turnaround, with all six of the team's wins coming in league play. Losing the team's leading rusher isn't ideal, but plenty of production returns with RB Ott (900 total yards) and QB Bailey (750 total yards, 10 TDs). Turner calls DL/TE Howerton the team's Swiss Army Knife, a high-motor guy who'll play almost anywhere on the field.

SIMMS BOWIE PIRATES (154)

Coach: Chance Blackburn. Lettermen R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 3-8 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: Mason May, Will Kelly, Jack Coleman, Kayden Evans, Jansen Burt, Nate Potter. Top juniors: Carson Weaver, Mason Stroman. Top sophomore: Trigger Crocker.

Other prospects: Cole Gipson, Lane Moilanen, Ryder Allen, Cameron Pickering.

2025 notes: The win total dropped by five last season, but the Pirates won the games that counted and earned valuable playoff experience. Good numbers return on both sides of the ball, but depth and youth are concerns. The Pirates must find a way to generate some offense after being blanked in the first three games of 2024 and scoring just 26 points in the first six outings. Top statistical returnees for the Pirates are Potter (rushing) and Coleman (tackles).



**Brennon
FERENCE**
OL/DL
Big Sandy



**Brandon
KENNEDY**
RB/DB
Elysian Fields



**Joe
IRVING**
RB/DB
Waskom



**Nate
ESPY**
FB/LB
Waskom



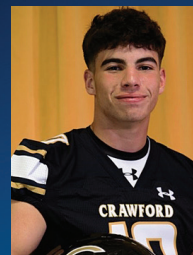
**Jarrell
WILLIAMS**
OL/DL
Hemphill



**Cooper
BRAGG**
RB/DB
Joaquin



**Landon
THOMAS**
QB
Jewett Leon



**Cade
CARROLL**
WR/DB
Crawford

DC
TX

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HIGH SCHOOL
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BREMOND TIGERS (145)

Coach: Jeff Kasowski. Lettermen R/L: 31/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/11. 2024: 12-3 2A DII state semifinalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Tank Scott (5-7, 160, 4.6), LB/OL Eddy Carrizales (5-8, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Zander Pruitt (5-10, 210, 4.9), QB Sam Kasowski (6-0, 205, 4.9). Top juniors: DL Tyriq Scott (6-2, 220, 4.7), OL/DL James Duncan (6-3, 250, 5.0), OL/DL Jack Nickels (6-2, 290, 5.3). Top sophomore: LB Jaden Scott (6-1, 180, 4.4).

Other prospects: WR Tristan Morehead, RB/WR Xavier Clark.

2025 notes: They say speed kills, and Bremond will have plenty of it in 2025. That quickness, paired with experience and depth, gives the Tigers confidence they can surpass last year's state semifinal run. The biggest concern is offensive line depth, but the talent in the trenches should hold strong. If everything falls into place, Bremond has the tools to unseat district foe and traditional state powerhouse Mart and make a title run.

CHILTON PIRATES (150)

Coach: Bennie Huit. Lettermen R/L: 17/6. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: RB Dha'Corian Evans (5-10, 190, 4.5), QB/DB Nate Wuebker (5-8, 170, 4.7), RB X'Zavion Taylor (5-10, 185, 4.7). Top juniors: OL Miguel Fajardo (5-11, 220, 5.1). Top sophomore: DL Brent Murphy (5-8, 320, 5.9).

Other prospects: DL Bryant Murphy, RB Jaylen Dorsey, WR Taurean Evans, WR Jayceon Caldron.

2025 notes: Chilton is coming off its fewest wins since 2018 but returns nearly every starter on both sides. The Pirates will lean on standout RB Evans (1,649 yards rushing) behind a solid offensive line. QB/DB Wuebker (321 yards, 4 TDs passing; 597 yards, 10 TDs rushing) adds dual-threat versatility, and there's depth at the skill spots. With concerns about size and overall roster depth, does Chilton have enough experience and talent to make the playoffs?

FROST POLAR BEARS (141)

Coach: Phillip Gibson. Lettermen R/L: 34/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Edwin Alvarado (5-10, 170, 4.7), DL Jordan Anderson (6-1, 265), DB/RB Fabian Abundis (5-7, 140, 4.6), DB/RB J.C. Woods (5-9, 180, 4.8). Top juniors: OL Jordan Mathis (6-0, 325). Top sophomore: RB/LB Lukas Rasco (5-11, 180, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/LB Jaycus Hailey, OL/OL Russell Foy, K Gabriel Abuid.

2025 notes: Four-year starting QB Alvarado (1,300 yards, 13 TDs passing; 500 yards, 4 TDs rushing) will lead the Frost offense behind an experienced offensive line. However, the running back group is young, and a clear leader has yet to emerge. The Polar Bears face a tough District 10-2A DII, but with eight starters returning on both sides of the ball, can Alvarado's leadership finally guide

Frost to its first playoff berth since 2019?

GOLDTHWAITE EAGLES (177.5)

Coach: Andy Howard. Lettermen R/L: 11/8. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-5 2A DII area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Aidyn Lee (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL Jeremiah Avanis (5-10, 240, 5.0), LB Hagen Greenway (6-0, 195, 4.9). Top junior: LB Walt Thompson (6-0, 195, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB Landry Sanderson (6-0, 190, 4.6).

Other prospects: WR Casen Wiedebusch, WR Zach Rodriguez, QB Hayes Greenway, TE Talen Gardner.

2025 notes: Goldthwaite took a big step forward in 2024, winning more games than the previous two seasons combined. Now, the challenge is maintaining that momentum with a young roster. While returners bring a solid grasp of the scheme, game experience is lacking, and growing pains are expected. Still, the Eagles believe they can compete for a playoff spot in a tougher district. Development will be key as they aim to build on last year's success.

HUBBARD JAGUARS (124)

Coach: Ryan Faulkner. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/6. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Gage Serna (5-10, 150), RB/DL Justyn Carlile (6-0, 180), OL/DL Aydon Swanson (6-0, 190), WR/DB Hunter Rodriguez (5-7, 155). Top juniors: TE/LB Justin Huff (6-4, 170), ATH Martin Perez (5-7, 150). Top sophomore: RB/LB Gavin Wragge.

Other prospects: TE/DL Jake Lane, OL/DL Landin Muesse, OL/DL Issac Mendez, OL/DL LaShawn Cano.

2025 notes: Hubbard is banking on a new wave of hungry young players to help turn things around after three tough seasons. This group hates losing more than they love winning, which could be the edge the Jaguars need to snap a streak of struggling seasons. Continuity in the system should help, but inexperience remains a concern. Facing a brutal district with teams such as Bremond, Goldthwaite, Mart and Chilton, Hubbard will need rapid growth to compete.

MART PANTHERS (154)

Coach: Chris Lancaster. Lettermen R/L: 16/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Ah'maad Scott, OL/DL Isaiah Arjon, OL/LB Cornelius Gillaspay, OL/DL Jackson Sheffield.

2025 notes: Mart enters a new era under Chris Lancaster, but the expectations remain the same — win big and contend for state. The Panthers are coming off what's considered a down year by their standards, falling in the second round of the playoffs. However, they return key talent in RB/DB Scott and boast depth in the trenches. If the pieces come together quickly, Lancaster could guide Mart back to one of its signature deep postseason runs.

District 10-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Aidyn Lee, Goldthwaite

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Tank Scott, Bremond

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Bremond | 5. Wortham |
| 2. Mart | 6. Frost |
| 3. Goldthwaite | 7. Meridian |
| 4. Chilton | 8. Hubbard |

MERIDIAN YELLOW JACKETS (106)

Coach: Jim Kerbow. Lettermen R/L: 18/4. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: DL Gunnar Chandler (6-5, 185, 4.7), LB Garrett Pope (6-1, 175, 4.9), RB Dustin Padgett (6-0, 175, 4.5), OL Bradley Perry (6-1, 225, 5.2). Top juniors: LB Ezekiel Mabry (5-11, 185, 4.9), LB Joshua Nunez (6-0, 175, 4.9). Top sophomore: DL Brandon Allen (6-0, 175, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Cohen Lumpkins, OL Cristian Whitmer, OL Stephen Potter, DL Ashton Allen, LB Jackson Boganwright.

2025 notes: Meridian has struggled in recent years, failing to win more than three games in a season since 2020. However, the Yellow Jackets have a chance to build some momentum. Experience on both sides of the ball should help, but depth remains a major concern. Staying healthy will be crucial if Meridian hopes to stay competitive in District 10-2A. While a playoff berth may be a stretch, the Yellow Jackets could surprise if things break their way.

WORTHAM BULLDOGS (165)

Coach: Chad Coker. Lettermen R/L: 8/15. Starters returning O/D: 1/3. 2024: 8-4 2A DII area finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Evan McCoslin (5-10, 165), RB/DL Josh Donnelson (5-6, 165), OL/DL Nathan Chasteen (5-10, 215), OL/DL Blake Hadden (5-10, 185). Top juniors: OL/DL Gavin Stelivan (5-10, 220), RB/DB Jocxi Mejia (5-10, 155). Top sophomore: WR/DB Colty Warren.

Other prospects: WR/DB Jayden King, LB/K Austin Lennington, QB/CB Kross Montgomery, WR/DB Kasen Calame.

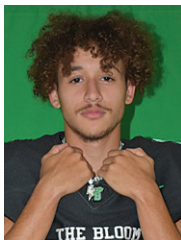
2025 notes: Wortham faces a season of transition after graduating 15 seniors, including its top passer, receiver and tackler. The Bulldogs will rely on RB/LB McCoslin (85 tackles, 9 TFL, 3 INTs) to lead both sides of the ball, while RB/DL Donnelson brings explosiveness up front on defense. OL/DL Chasteen is the lone returning O-line starter, anchoring a young, undersized unit. Wortham sees potential in the secondary but expects growing pains. Can the Bulldogs remain a playoff contender?



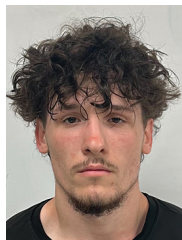
**Pryce
RABROKER**
QB
Rosebud-Lott



**Cayson
MERZ**
OL/DL
Thorndale



**Amari
GARDNER**
RB/LB
Bloomington



**Chis
WARREN**
RB/LB
Danbury



**Austen
PENA**
WR/DB
Ganado



**Logan
BURES**
RB/DB
Ganado



**Miguel
ALANIZ**
QB
Santa Maria

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

ALTO YELLOW JACKETS (147)

Coach: Brock Grigsby. Lettermen R/L: 10/14. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-4/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Camdyn Almond (6-1, 180, 4.7), ATH A.J. Buckingham (5-9, 155, 4.5), WR Chris Johnson (6-5, 185, 4.6), LB Aiden Holmes (5-11, 175, 4.7), OL Ra'Shad Lynch (6-4, 305, 5.5), ATH Jadarion Jones (5-9, 150, 4.6), DB Derek Jordan (5-10, 155, 4.7), LB Jabari Moore (6-4, 185, 4.6).

2025 notes: The return of district newcomer of the year Almond and quality depth at the skill positions might be what it takes to get Grigsby's crew back into the postseason. LB Holmes is a key holdover on defense.

CUSHING BEARKATS (159.5)

Coach: Scott Holzhauser. Lettermen R/L: 18/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: FB/LB Landon Castillo (5-10, 160, 4.8), TE/DE Jacob Conway (6-1, 180, 4.9), RB/DB Ty Chandler (5-9, 155, 4.7), DL/DL Jakies Mitchell (6-0, 190, 4.9), OL/DL Carson Mitchell (6-0, 175, 5.0), RB/LB Dom Benedetti (5-7, 145, 4.9).

2025 notes: Lack of size and a need for more speed are concerns for the Bearkats, but having eight starters back on each side of the ball will help. FB Castillo and RB Chandler are proven veterans.

GRAPELAND SANDIES (159)

Coach: Jordan Wood. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 8/5. 2024: 10-4 region/finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Maleek Johnson (5-8, 183, 4.3), OL/DL Jesse Ellington (6-2, 285, 5.3), QB/DB Sean Walker (5-7, 160, 4.4), WR/DB Keavy Bruins (5-10, 140, 4.5), LB Diego Fajardo (5-7, 165, 4.4).

2025 notes: A strong senior class that knows how to win likely means another deep playoff run for the Sandies, who also have one of the state's best comeback stories in senior RB Johnson. He missed all of his sophomore year with a knee injury, but returned with a vengeance.

LOVELADY LIONS (179)

Coach: Will Kirchhoff. Lettermen R/L: 19/8. Starters

COLMESNEIL BULLDOGS (108)

Coach: Brian Ramsey. Lettermen R/L: 25/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Caden Shepherd (5-10, 190, 4.7), OL/DL Jared Lehman (6-2, 250), ATH Dean Yates (5-9, 150, 4.7), RB/LB William Berry (6-0, 200, 4.7), OL/DL Cooper Lewis (6-3, 250), RB/LB Landen Blake (5-9, 165, 4.9), WR/DB Julian Fuller (5-10, 170, 4.8), OL Connor Eddins (6-0, 175), OL/DL Camryn Best, OL Mason Sullivan, OL/DL Matthew Neal.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs should be ready for a playoff push in Ramsey's second season at the helm. RB/LB Shepherd is a two-way force and will be the focal point of the offense. OL/DL Lewis started 10 games for the Bulldogs as a freshman and could emerge as the leader in the trenches.

DEWEYVILLE PIRATES (153)

Coach: Brandon Prouse. Lettermen R/L: 19/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Elijah Milton (6-0, 195, 4.6), TE/DE Lane Burke (6-3, 215, 4.9), QB/DB Jaxon Stone (5-5, 145, 4.6), RB/LB Carson Borel (6-4, 185, 4.7), OL/LB Slade Gunter (5-10, 185, 4.9), RB/DB Layton Burch, OL/DL Carter Hughes.

2025 notes: RB/DB Milton was the district MVP a year ago, and Prouse calls him "a 48-minute player." TE/DE Burke is a four-year starter on both sides of the ball and the leader of the DHS defensive front.

EVADALE REBELS (106)

Coach: Jay Buckner. Lettermen R/L: 13/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DE Kayden Hubbard, OL/DE Braden Riedinger, FS/K Brantley Badger, RB/LB Braden Stinson, RB/CB Gavin Maxfield, QB Brett Buckner.

2025 notes: The Rebels could have the pieces to earn their first playoff win since 2021 and contend for a district title as Buckner welcomes back 13 starters. TE/DE Hubbard and OL/DE Riedinger are great blockers and will anchor the defensive line. Junior QB

returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Barrett Stauffer (6-1, 195, 4.6), FB/LB Lane Wilson (5-10, 190, 4.7), QB/DB Cody James (5-10, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Moises Vallejo (5-9, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Case Pennington (6-1, 230, 5.0), WR/DB Brady McCullough (5-9, 160, 4.6), OL/DL John Gullledge (6-0, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Ryder Lovell, RB/LB Ejay Baker, WR/DB C.J. Wiley, OL/DL Hunter Crawford, OL/DL Brody McMillan, RB/DB Aiden McIntyre, WR/DB Isaac Chaisson, WR/DB Isaiah Chaisson, RB/DB Courtney Whitaker, TE/LB Lucky Holbrook.

2025 notes: Kirchhoff has done nothing but win with the Lions, and says that trend should continue if his team stays healthy in 2025. QB James is a playmaker who makes everyone around him better, and RB Vallejo is a tough-as-nails runner who won't be outworked.

MOUNT ENTERPRISE WILDCATS (151)

Coach: Scott Ponder. Lettermen R/L: 21/4. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 9-4 region semifinalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Kaegan Ash (6-0, 205, 4.5), RB/LB Aadin Alsop (5-9, 170, 4.6), RB/LB Tanner Wilburn (5-8, 155, 4.7), LB/RB Joshua Bennett (6-1, 220, 4.8), TE/DL Lucas Burkhardt (6-3, 235, 4.7), OL/DL Keaton Nichols (5-9, 245, 5.2), RB/DB Yobany Rubio (5-9, 155, 4.8), RB/DB Joel Otwell (5-8, 175, 4.6), RB/LB Antonio Hernandez (5-9, 175, 4.9), QB/LB Harry Bellgardt, OL/DL Royrick Roberts, TE/DB Khalel Solomon, OL/DL Jess Pool, OL/DL Alex Ward, RB/DB Jase Webb.

2025 notes: Ash is nearing 7,000 career rushing yards and 100 career rushing TDs. Wilburn is a four-year starter who is always around the ball, and Burkhardt and Nichols are also back for a fourth year.

OVERTON MUSTANGS (166)

Coach: Scotty Layman. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 10-3 region semifinalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Rylan Holleman (6-1, 200, 4.6), RB/LB Justin Weir (5-9, 180, 4.7), RB/LB Gabe Miller (5-9, 180, 4.6), OL/DL Eathen Oates (6-3,

Buckner will operate Evadale's spread offense with RB/LB Stinson and RB/CB Maxfield as key pieces.

HULL-DAISETTA BOBCATS (101)

Coach: Randy Birdwell. Lettermen R/L: 13/3. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 1-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Amaree Patterson (6-2, 175, 4.6), TE/DE Josh Jennings (6-1, 200, 4.8), LB Alex Garcia (5-8, 165, 4.8), QB Zach Burks (5-8, 160, 4.6), OL Garrison Martin (5-9, 260).

2025 notes: The Bobcats bring all but three players back from last year's team and Birdwell believes the experience that's returning will be a catalyst for improvement. RB/DB Patterson is a dynamic playmaker on both sides of the ball and his size gives him the ability to be a factor in run support. Sophomore QB Burks will lead the offense.

SABINE PASS SHARKS (136)

Coach: Cody Almond. Lettermen R/L: 5/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: ATH Palshon Darby, RB/S Dorian Brannon, DB Brayton Jacobs, OL/DL Eddie Galvan, OL/DL Devin Moore, LB Lawrence Batiste.

2025 notes: Almond says numbers are a concern and several freshmen may be asked to play key roles at the varsity level. Team speed is a strength with the return of ATH Darby and junior RB/S Brannon leading the way. Two-way linemen OL/DL Galvan and OL/DL Moore will be counted on to lead a thin group in the trenches.

WEST HARDIN OILERS (178)

Coach: Zach Skinner. Lettermen R/L: 16/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Marcus Hashaw, WR/DB Dmarques Guillory, RB/DB Owen Beauchamp, OL/DL Liam Trousdale, OL/LB Josh Bickerstaff, RB/DB Adrian Carillo, RB/DL Beaux Adams, RB/LB Carson Henry, RB/LB Cooper Fregia.

2025 notes: Skinner comes back to his old stomping grounds of Southeast Texas to take over a WHHS squad that went from 0-10 in 2023 to a surprising 6-5 mark. A big reason for improvement

District 11-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kaegan Ash, Mount Enterprise

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Barrett Stauffer, Lovelady

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1. Lovelady | 5. Alto |
| 2. Grapeland | 6. Tenaha |
| 3. Mount Enterprise | 7. Cushing |
| 4. Overton | |

310, 5.5), OL/DL Chris Foster (6-1, 315, 5.8), WR/DB Jacob Osburn (5-11, 165, 4.6), WR/LB Kash Holleman (6-0, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Elijah Dorsey (5-10, 260, 5.4), RB/PK Jackson Furlow (5-9, 150, 4.6), RB/LB Hunter Klima, WR/DB Brody Brown, WR/DB Ivan Ransom, TE/LB Landon Hill, OL Tucker Dikey, TE/DL Gunner Whitfield, OL/DL Dalton Cannon, OL/DL Ronny Prior.

2025 notes: Seven of the team's top tacklers return to keep teams honest until the offense finds its groove. Holleman could be the answer at QB, and Weir, Miller and big, physical Oates are two-way terrors.

TENAHA TIGERS (151)

Coach: Marlon Byrdsong. Lettermen R/L: 14/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 2-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: ATH Decaden Cooks (5-9, 165, 4.6), WR/DB Jataivius Malone (6-2, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Keren Cato (5-11, 260), LB Ciro Sandavol, RB/LB Kory Miles, RB/LB Jaden Goodson, OL/DL Zay Tutt, LB/RB Ramon Flores.

2025 notes: A tough schedule against teams that finished a combined 24-13 led to an 0-3 start in 2024, and the Tigers never recovered. Don't expect a tradition-rich program to stay down long, though, as Cooks, Malone, Cato, Sandavol and Goodson all return in hopes of leading the Tigers back to the postseason.

was on defense. After allowing over 50 points per game in 2023, the Oilers allowed just over 22 points per game last year. QB Hashaw is back to lead the offense and will rely on WR/DB Guillory and RB/DB Beauchamp as offensive weapons.

WEST SABINE TIGERS (158)

Coach: Danny Bragg. Lettermen R/L: 8/15. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH JaKobe Harris (6-2, 185, 4.5), TE/LB Kade Myrann (6-1, 215, 4.8), TE/LB Johntorian Randle (6-0, 195, 4.8), QB/DB Laken Quick (6-0, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Hunter Primrose (6-5, 230), OL/DL Cayson McBride (6-0, 225), DE Connor Dyess (6-0, 210, 4.8), WR/DB Jentzen McGown (6-0, 150, 4.7), RB/LB Brennan Richardson (6-0, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Lamare Williams, LB Jaxon Mitchell, OL/DL Shawn Dubose, WR/DB Jaden Curtis, OL/DL Mason Hart, OL/DL Cleveland Smith, OL/DL Ethan Powell, DB Brycen Jacks.

2025 notes: ATH Harris does a little bit of everything and will be a contributor in all three phases, while QB/DB Quick is back after tossing 10 touchdown passes as a junior. Two-way linemen OL/DL Primrose and OL/DL McBride form the base of what should be a very good team up front on both sides of the ball.

District 12-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Elijah Milton, Deweyville

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH JaKobe Harris, West Sabine

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Deweyville | 5. Colmesneil |
| 2. Pineland West Sabine | 6. Sabine Pass |
| 3. Evadale | 7. Hull-Daisetta |
| 4. Saratoga West Hardin | |

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 2A

Class 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BARTLETT BULLDOGS (142)

Coach: Ty Oppermann. Lettermen R/L: 15/9. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 3-7/2-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Ryder Castro (6-3, 210, 4.8), OL/LB Jay Garcia (5-9, 225, 4.9), WR/DB Tywon Walker (5-7, 140, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/DB Aaron Hernandez (5-6, 145, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DL Brice Becker, TE/LB Aidan Botts.

2025 notes: Battle-tested and brimming with experience, Bartlett returns nine starters on both sides of the ball and believes it's ready to take the next step. QB Castro (1,013 yards, 10 TDs passing) leads the charge, with WR Walker (14-313 yards, 4 TDs receiving) as a top target. The Bulldogs see their recent struggles as fuel for a breakthrough season. With tough district foes such as Burton and Granger, can they fight for a playoff spot?

BURTON PANTHERS (148)

Coach: Jason Hodde. Lettermen R/L: 21/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Kaden Patterson (5-11, 165, 4.6), DL/RB Maleek Bibby (6-1, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Houston Hodde (6-2, 240, 5.0), LB/RB Ryder Biggs (6-0, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/OL Braden Martin (5-10, 165, 4.6), LB/RB Ruben Rodriguez (5-9, 185, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DL Lawrence Allan, TE/DE Caleb Nausmann.

2025 notes: Back-to-back six-win seasons have Burton optimistic as it returns most of its supporting cast in 2025. QB Patterson (893 yards, 7 TDs passing) and RB Bibby (854 yards, 8 TDs rushing) form a dangerous offensive duo. LB/RB Biggs (103 tackles) will lead the defense. With experience and talent on both sides, the Panthers hope to return to double-digit wins — something they last achieved in 2021 and 2022. The pieces may be in place.

GRANGER LIONS (156)

Coach: Gaston McDorman. Lettermen R/L: 17/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 9-4 2A DII regional semifinalists/6-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Caleb Hobratch (5-11, 198, 4.7), OL/DL Grayson Smith (6-5, 295, 5.7), QB/DB Wyatt Rochner (5-10, 170, 4.7), OL/LB Chase Selucky (5-10, 210, 5.0). Top juniors: OL/DL Dre Rhea (5-10, 210, 5.3), TE/LB Stino Flores (5-10, 180, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DB Nicholas Blane (5-7, 150, 4.7).

Other prospects: RB/LB Dayton Knippa, WR/DB Jo Sifuentes, WR/DB Caleb Tucker.

2025 notes: Granger returns skill players on both sides of the ball, but key losses on the offensive line could impact its strong run game. RB/LB Hobratch (1,579 yards, 26 TDs rushing; 87 tackles) and QB/DB Rochner (1,100 yards, 16 TDs passing; 856 yards, 9 TDs rushing) will be vital playmakers. With a year of experience in the spread offense, can the Lions take another step forward and build on last season's success?

IOLA BULLDOGS (176)

Coach: Eric Blenden. Lettermen R/L: 14/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-6 2A DII bi-district finalist/4-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Tyler Elliott (5-10, 165, 4.8), RB Adrian Garrett (5-10, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Cody Samples (5-9, 230, 5.0), WR/DB Austin Calvillo (5-9, 155, 4.7). Top sophomore: TE/DL Colin Fowler (6-1, 4.9).

Other prospects: TE/LB Cooper Morgan, FB/LB Cooper Cadro, OL/DL Ryan Rubion, OL/DL Weston Rubion.

2025 notes: Iola is brimming with confidence, fueled by a veteran core and long-awaited coaching stability. Third-year QB Elliott (1,540 yards, 20 TDs passing) leads an experienced offense, with RB Garrett (897 yards, 10 TDs rushing) primed for a big year after logging big numbers despite missing time. The Bulldogs expect a stronger O-line, anchored by Samples and the Rubion brothers. With continuity in the system and seasoned playmakers, Iola believes it can challenge Granger and contend for a top playoff spot.

MCDADE BULLDOGS (110)

Coach: Jonathan Wells. Lettermen R/L: 6/1. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 1-9/0-7 district.

Players to watch: OL Juan Murillo (5-11, 240, 5.4), RB Pedro Martinez (5-6, 155, 4.8). Top juniors: WR Ina Johnson (5-6, 150, 4.8).

2025 notes: McDade is still in the process of adjusting to 11-man football after transitioning from six-man last season. Wells enters his second year with a team that is still building depth and numbers, making it difficult to compete in all areas. While the Bulldogs will continue to face challenges, OL Murillo and RB Martinez bring leadership and experience to the roster. Despite a tough district, McDade will focus on growth this season.

MILANO EAGLES (150)

Coach: Nicholas Morehead. Lettermen R/L: 10/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/3. 2024: 4-6/3-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Troy Montoya (5-10, 205, 5.0), RB/LB Peyton Steinbecker (5-11, 185, 4.9), RB/LB Dylan Magee (5-11, 195, 4.8), OL/DL Nolan Reyes (6-7, 265, 5.3), WR/DB Jackson Reyes (6-6, 190, 4.7). Top junior: QB/DB Shiner Thurman (5-5, 125, 5.5).

2025 notes: After two straight years without a playoff berth, Milano is motivated to turn things around. The Eagles return a physical O-line to support QB Thurman (305 yards, 1 TD passing), who ended 2024 as the starter, and a backfield duo in RB Magee (336 yards, 3 TDs rushing) and RB Steinbecker. Milano faces questions at the skill positions, but if the offense clicks and the defense toughens up, the Eagles could push back into playoff contention.

District 13-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Caleb Hobratch, Granger

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Ryder Biggs, Burton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Granger | 5. Bartlett |
| 2. Burton | 6. Milano |
| 3. Iola | 7. Snook |
| 4. Somerville | 8. McDade |

SNOOK BLUEJAYS (163)

Coach: Nolan Lanham. Lettermen R/L: 11/10. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 1-9/1-6 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Brayden Macik (6-2, 195, 4.9), LB/RB Michael Eaton (5-9, 165, 4.9), WR/DB John Carr (5-11, 155, 4.9), OL/DL Ramiro Martinez (6-2, 265, 5.5). Top juniors: OL/DL Noel Lara (6-2, 265, 5.2), RB/DL Ke'Treen Carter (6-2, 215, 4.9), OL/DL Tray Jackson (5-10, 220, 5.5). Top sophomore: RB/LB Wyatt Lopez (5-11, 150, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Mason Hahn.

2025 notes: The Bluejays are still building their program, aiming to improve after a tough season. With a strong foundation of cohesion between players and coaches, they are focused on staying competitive throughout games and finishing strong in the fourth quarter. While they're a young team, with limited experience, they believe 2025 will be a step forward. Expect them to battle for a middle-of-the-pack finish in their district, staying just outside the playoff picture but showing significant progress.

SOMERVILLE YEGUAS (157)

Coach: Luke Klingler. Lettermen R/L: 32/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 11-2 2A DII regional semifinalist/7-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Christopher Deere (6-2, 225, 4.6), WR/DB Kyle Brooks (5-10, 180, 4.6), RB Ja'Keith Daniels (5-11, 200, 4.7), DL/OL Martin Espinoza (6-2, 220, 4.9). Top juniors: QB/LB Andrew Espinoza (5-10, 185, 4.9), OL Izael Garza (5-8, 245, 5.3). Top sophomore: DB/WR Jayden Young (5-9, 160, 4.5).

Other prospects: DL/OL Moses Stickel, LB/RB Colt Holton, OL/DL Aiden Parker, DB/WR Kaleb Leang, FB Luke Moses.

2025 notes: Somerville had a historic season with an undefeated district title and a deep playoff run. The Yeguas believe their team culture, built on the TRIBE mentality, is a major strength. Even though they lost key contributors on offense, the defense remains their backbone. While they expect to be competitive again, the team's youth at key offensive positions and a tougher district could present challenges. Will Somerville be able to contend with Granger for another district championship?



Angel
LARA
RB/LB
Bovina



Chase
LANTELME
QB/DB
Stratford



Kaden
RIKER
FB/LB
Ropes



Victor
SAENZ
TE/DL
Ropes



Hugo
RASCON
RB/DB
Seagraves



Skyler
POND
QB/DB
Smyer



Cade
FRERICH
WR/LB
Wink

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRACKETTVILLE TIGERS (167)

Coach: Kody Yeager. Lettermen R/L: 23/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 7-4 area finalist/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Troy Sandoval (5-8, 155, 4.6), LB Andy Loftus (6-2, 215, 4.8), LB Abel Aguirre (5-10, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Jordan Balderas (5-9, 160, 4.6), OL/LB David Lopez (5-10, 190, 5.0), OL/DL Diego Reyes (5-10, 260, 5.3). Top juniors: OL/DL Kou'various Cook (6-0, 280, 5.4).

Other prospects: WR/DB Kamron Creel, OL/LB Brayden Martinez, LB Ivan Gonzalez, WR/DB Tommy Loftus, RB/LB Demetrius Siler, OL Davin Garcia.

2025 notes: Yeager expects the Tigers to take a step forward in Year 2 under his direction with 15 returning starters familiar with a new system. QB/DB Sandoval (683 yards, 11 TDs passing; 803 yards, 7 TDs rushing; 82 tackles) is a home-run hitter offensively and a ball hawk on defense. Defensive MVP Aguirre (66 tackles, 34 TFL) is also back to lead a strong group of linebackers. Brackettville has the tools to contend for a district title.

CENTER POINT PIRATES (154)

Coach: Mario Laque. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 4-6/2-4 district.

Players to watch: FB/DL JP Peralta (5-8, 212), RB/DB Jaydin Segura (5-9, 145), OL/LB Cavan Davis (5-9, 170), RB/LB Din Arreola (5-8, 165), QB Clayton Forster (5-11, 160), OL/DL Aiden Alexander (6-0, 230). Top sophomore: RB/LB Pace Davis (5-9, 165).

Other prospects: WR Gabe Aguirre, WR/DB Marcus Deleon, OL/DL Jonathan Castaneda, ATH Connor Holt, OL Leighton Johnson, OL/DL Dimas Medrano.

2025 notes: A strong senior class featuring multiple two-way starters leads a Pirates team in search of their first winning season since 2019. FB/DL Peralta is a bruising runner and is solid up front, while RB/DB Segura provides speed and playmaking ability. QB Forster (252 yards, 2 TDs passing; 454 yards, 9 TDs rushing) is strong-armed and an effective runner, and RB/LB Davis will be asked to do more after an impressive freshman campaign.

D'HANIS COWBOYS (96)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 15/4. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 4-6 bi-district finalist/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Cannon Zachry (6-0, 170, 4.8), DL Brandon Bermea (6-0, 240, 5.6), WR Kase Braden (6-4, 185, 4.8), LB Jose Ruiz (5-11, 195, 5.2), CB Josiah Rodriguez (5-7, 140, 5.2), LB Ethan Mutz (5-6, 170, 5.3). Top sophomore: DL Allan Pawlik (6-0, 240).

Other prospects: OL Aiden Rodriguez, QB Evan Craft, OL Cashius Herrmann, WR Wyatt Schlortt, WR Aiden Enriquez, TE Kaden Knowlton, DL Brady Bruce, DL DJ Martinez.

2025 notes: Off the field, the Cowboys are still mourning the death of coach Troy Langfield, who died in April; he coached D'Hanis for 19 seasons. RB Zachry (275 yards, 3 TDs rushing) provides senior leadership and WR Braden (15-285 yards, 3 TDs receiving) will use his size on the perimeter to beat defenses. The Cowboys defense also features standouts, starting up front with DL Bermea (5 sacks), LB Ruiz (48 tackles) in the middle and the ball-hawking DB Rodriguez (4 INTs) in the secondary.

JUNCTION EAGLES (174)

Coach: Scott Freeman. Lettermen R/L: 18/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 12-2 region finalist/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Chasen Doyal (6-0, 165,

District 14-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Chasen Doyal, Junction

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Abel Aguirre, Brackettville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Junction
2. Brackettville
3. La Pryor
4. D'Hanis
5. Sabinal
6. Center Point

4.5), LB Bryan Gonzales (5-8, 165, 5.2), LB Crue Levien (5-8, 185, 5.1), ATH Brock Bierschwale (5-7, 140, 4.6), OL Quade Sullivan (6-0, 190, 5.1), DB Grant Simon (6-0, 185, 4.5). Top juniors: ATH Koda Bierschwale (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Hunter Dale (6-1, 150, 4.8). Top sophomore: DL Leo Silva (6-0, 185, 5.4).

2025 notes: Junction is coming off its best season in a decade after capturing the 14-2A DII title and going four rounds deep. The goals remain the same as Freeman's group has the pieces to replicate last year's success. QB Doyal (1,606 yards, 25 TDs passing; 353 yards, 4 TDs rushing) is a four-year starter who runs the show offensively, while LB Gonzales (124 tackles, 19 TFL) is the quarterback and heartbeat of the Junction defense. If the line play can coalesce around the outstanding headline players, the Eagles have a chance to make statewide noise again.

LA PRYOR BULLDOGS (126)

Coach: Fernando Rubalcava. Lettermen R/L: 26/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Dareon Vasquez (6-1, 165, 4.6), OL/DL Achilles Pargas (6-0, 250, 5.2), OL/DL David Villarreal (6-2, 300, 5.5), FB/LB Moises Lopez (5-10, 210, 4.8), FB/DL Jose Arvizo (5-11, 200, 4.8), TE/DL Jose Valdez (6-1, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Jesse Dominguez (5-11, 220, 5.0). Top sophomore: TE/LB Jose Angel Hernandez (6-1, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR/DB Nathan Martinez, RB/DB Adrian Madison.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs posted their first winning season in five years and now they're aiming to keep stacking victories. La Pryor brings back seven starters on both sides of the ball, led by all-district dual-threat QB/DB Vasquez. The Bulldogs have plenty of size inside in OL/DL Pargas, OL/DL Villarreal and TE/DL Valdez, while FB/LB Lopez and FB/DL Arvizo look to take over a backfield that graduated much of its 2024 production.

SABINAL YELLOW JACKETS (142)

Coach: Jeff Kowalksi. Lettermen R/L: 20/3. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 1-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Aiden Tinker, WR/DB Andres Reyes, RB/DB Sebastian Quintanilla, RB/DB Alex Rodriguez, WR/DB Blake Beza, WR/DB Jace Clark.

Other prospects: LB/FB Alex Trujillo, OL/DL Will Hudel.

2025 notes: Sabinal has a young squad with 18 returning starters who have put in work over the offseason. QB Tinker (1,064 yards, 8 TDs passing; 608 yards, 17 TDs rushing; 65 tackles) was effective as a dual-threat passer with WR/DB Reyes (36-633, 4 TDs receiving) on the receiving end. LB/FB Trujillo (84 tackles) returns to lead the defense, while RB/DB Quintanilla and RB/DB Rodriguez will see action as two-way players.



**Kemyd
FACIANE**
RB
Wink



**Aiden
MCQUERRY**
OL
Windthorst



**Jaxon
STARK**
WR
Windthorst



**Sam
KASOWSKI**
QB
Bremond



**Tank
SCOTT**
RB/LB
Bremond



**Evan
MCCOSLIN**
RB/LB
Wortham



**Kaegan
ASH**
RB/LB
Mount Enterprise



**Elijah
MILTON**
RB/DB
Deweyville

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

CHARLOTTE TROJANS (137)

Coach: Lamar Rodriguez. Lettermen R/L: 14/5. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 1-9/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Anthony Sanchez, WR/DB Julian Cruz, QB Lamar Rodriguez III, DB Alex Contreras, OL Jayden Castillo, LB Nicholas Hassler, OL Landon Gonzales, OL Alex Espinoza, OL Aden Guislar.

2025 notes: Coach Rodriguez expects to see a big improvement from the Trojans in his first season as head coach. Experience won't be an issue, but depth will again be a concern. The Trojans return all but two starters and will have to stay healthy.

FALLS CITY BEAVERS (123)

Coach: Mark Kirchhoff. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Braylon Johnson (5-11, 170, 4.4), OL/DL Riley Erlich (6-1, 235, 4.9), RB/LB/K Kain Jurgaitis (5-11, 175, 4.6), RB/DB Tyler Pawelek (6-1, 185, 4.8), WR/DB Alex Bordovsky (6-1, 175, 4.7), OL Cooper Wilson (6-1, 301, 5.8), DB Tanner Krawietz (5-9, 145, 4.7), TE Noah Rijoias (5-10, 195, 5.2), LB Luke Morawietz (5-9, 175, 5.0), DE/TE Korbin House, LB McCrae Davidson, OL Brady Crews, DL Daylen Kowalik, CB Teagan Wuest, DL Lane Yosko, DB Kole Cronk, DL Samuel Echols.

2025 notes: The Beavers have talented, experienced players returning, but the key to a long playoff run will be keeping QB/DB Johnson on the field. Injuries have sidelined Johnson the last two years and ended Falls City's playoff run at the same time. RB Pawelek will take some of the burden off Johnson. OL/DL Erlich and RB/DB Jurgaitis are key two-way players. Jurgaitis had 10 touchdowns as a kicker.

LOUISE HORNETS (156)

Coach: Cameron Murrah. Lettermen R/L: 18/8. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Conner Gonzalez (5-9, 155, 4.6), DB/RB Dawson Lott (5-10, 165, 4.8), LB/RB Tanner

Lott (5-10, 165, 4.9), OL/DL Noah Crain (6-1, 270, 5.2), OL/DL George Flores (5-11, 260, 5.0), OL/DL Alex Faris (5-10, 255, 5.0), OL/DL Andres Gaona (6-0, 225, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Hornets have a new coach in Murrah, who was Stockdale's offensive coordinator. A large part of the offense will be in the hands of QB Gonzalez, who will operate behind an experienced line with Crain, Flores and Faris returning. Louise will attempt to improve on defense after surrendering an average of over 46 points per game in district play.

PETTUS WAR EAGLES (116)

Coach: Dan Garza. Lettermen R/L: 18/2. Starters returning O/D: 10/10. 2024: 1-9/1-4.

Players to watch: RB Felix Flores (5-8, 155, 4.8), TE/LB Robert Rodgers (5-5, 165, 4.9), WR McLane Kunze (5-8, 150, 4.9), OL J.D. Aguirre III (5-10, 210, 5.4), DB Israel Charles (5-8, 155, 4.9), DB Ayden King (6-2, 170, 4.8), RB Jackson Ramirez (5-8, 155, 4.5), QB Ramon Reyna III.

2025 notes: The Eagles hope their experience will help them reach the postseason. The team will rely on its quickness in the backfield with Ramirez and Flores to overcome a lack of size in the backfield. Pettus is counting on QB Reyna III returning from an injury in time for district play.

SHINER COMANCHES (181)

Coach: Daniel Boedeker. Lettermen R/L: 22/5. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 12-4 state finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Quincy Jones (5-11, 155), QB/DB Jake Simper (5-10, 160), TE/DL Bode Werner (6-3, 205), OL Cason Dement (5-10, 210), QB/WR/DB Jarvis Williams (5-10, 140), LB/RB Triston Vesely (6-0, 175), RB/LB Clayton Fric (5-10, 150), RB/DB Caleb Cowan (5-10, 155), RB/DB Tyler Harvey (5-9, 145), WR/DB Boe Boehm, TE/DL Charlie Clifford, OL Jacob Nerada, OL/DL Gavyn Lopez, TE/DL Landen Christensen.

2025 notes: Shiner lost only four seniors from a team that advanced to the state final. The

Comanches will still be a fairly young team, but have the pieces to make another run. The biggest hole will be at QB where Simper, who also plays DB, will make the move. There is no shortage of offensive weapons, including RB Jones and WR Williams, who broke his wrist in the state final. DBs Williams and Harvey, and LB Fric are back from a defense that allowed one touchdown or less in seven games.

District 15-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Quincy Jones, Shiner

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Braylon Johnson, Falls City

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Shiner
2. Falls City
3. Yorktown
4. Louise
5. Pettus
6. Charlotte

2025 notes: The Beavers have talented, experienced players returning, but the key to a long playoff run will be keeping QB/DB Johnson on the field. Injuries have sidelined Johnson the last two years and ended Falls City's playoff run at the same time. RB Pawelek will take some of the burden off Johnson. OL/DL Erlich and RB/DB Jurgaitis are key two-way players. Jurgaitis had 10 touchdowns as a kicker.

YORKTOWN WILDCATS (153)

Coach: Ryan Knostman. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Brody Metting (5-10, 165, 4/8), TE/DL Ryan Knostman II (6-3, 235, 4.9), WR/DB Matthew Olguin (5-7, 155, 4.8), WR/DB Brayden Knostman (5-11, 150, 4.8), OL Gunnar Hughes (6-2, 235, 5.2), RB McKenzie Yanta (5-7, 150, 4.9).

2025: There's no doubt the offense will revolve around QB Metting, who had a breakout junior season. The Wildcats will attempt to build around him with WRs Olguin and Brayden Knostman II and TE Ryan Knostman II. Olguin will also lead the secondary. The biggest question mark will be inexperience on the OL and DL.

AGUA DULCE LONGHORNS (127)

Coach: Jason Calvez. Lettermen R/L: 15/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Bryan King (6-1, 190, 4.4), QB Lane Ranly (6-5, 210, 5.1), WR Benny Espinoza (5-8, 145, 4.6), RB Aiden Martinez (5-9, 160, 4.6), WR John Aguilar (5-10, 155, 4.9), OL Orlando Lazos (5-11, 235, 5.2), Top juniors: WR Ethan Cadena (6-0, 145, 4.7), LB Christian Lara (5-9, 155, 4.8).

Other prospects: WR Aiden Garza, LB Antonio Herrera, QB/WR Chase Benjamin.

2025 notes: Calvez expects another successful season, pointing to the experienced skill position players the Longhorns return. RB King is back (1,211 yards, 17 TDs rushing) as one of the fastest in the area and QB Ranly (1,828 yards, 19 TDs passing) returns to helm the offense. Ranly has experienced options in WR Espinoza and WR Cadena. If Agua Dulce can develop depth up front they could be in line for another big year.

BEN BOLT BADGERS (140)

Coach: Mark DelPercio. Lettermen R/L: 20/12. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Christian Chapa (5-9, 160, 4.9), RB/LB Noah Perez (5-8, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Walker Dunlavy (6-3, 252, 5.0). Top juniors: DE Preston Ables (6-2, 195, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB/LB Erick Ramirez (5-10, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Brody Loya, OL/DL Warren Nunez, WR/LB Oryan Elizalde, WR/DB Brayden Pena, OL/DL Aicen Ramirez, OL/DL Eric Hinojosa, RB/DB Michael Godinez.

2025 notes: New coach DelPercio, formerly Orange Grove's head coach and a Delaware coaching legend, takes over. QB Chapa (2,502 yards, 33 TDs passing) is back after a stellar sophomore season taking over behind center for the Badgers. The team will be breaking in some new receivers, but RB/LB Perez came on late in the season (379 yards, 6 TDs) and will

be counted on for a larger role. OL/DL Dunlavy is the anchor of the line and also contributed defensively.

BRUNI BADGERS (81)

Coach: Paul Veirs. Lettermen R/L: 7/6. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DE Geoffrey Johnson (5-10, 185, 5.0), TE/LB Evan Rodriguez (5-9, 175, 4.9), FB/LB Elijah Veirs (5-9, 185, 4.8), QB/DB Homer Chapa (5-7, 140, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Badgers are looking to bounce back after a 13-year playoff streak was snapped last season. Coach Veirs said the team's strength will be on defense, where more than half of the starters return. QB/DB Chapa is back after playing as a freshman (500 yards, 3 TDs passing) and TE/LB Rodriguez returns as a go-to target (22 receptions, 2 TDs receiving). FB/LB Veirs (90 tackles) is back spearheading the defense.

LA VILLA CARDINALS (175)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 7-4 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Isaiah Felix (5-9, 140, 4.9), RB/LB Andrew Gonzalez (5-7, 155, 5.1), OL Roman Hinojosa (5-10, 210, 5.5), WR/DE Alfonso Juarez (5-10, 150, 5.2). Top juniors: RB/DB Austin Cantu (5-6, 130, 4.9), WR/DB Sean Saenz (5-7, 130, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL Robert Sanchez (6-2, 290, 5.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Andres Sanchez, RB/DB Frankie-Raye Gonzales, OL/DL Francisco Contreras, RB/LB Jacob Rivera, OL/DL Jae Rivera, WR/DB EJ Gonzales, OL/DL Jose Cervantes, WR/DB Edmundo Garcia.

2025 notes: The Cardinals' fourth straight district crown and 10th straight playoff berth sets the stage for another big season with QB/DB Felix (664 yards, 8 TDs passing; 942 yards, 17 TDs rushing) and RB/LB Gonzalez (1,141 yards, 10 TDs rushing) returning. OL Hinojosa will anchor the line and DE/WR Juarez

makes an impact on defense (37 tackles, 11 sacks). The team expects to chase a district championship and postseason success again with a new coach.

WOODSBORO EAGLES (133)

Coach: Johnny Lesak. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/1-3 district.

Players to watch: TE/LB Isaiah Maxwell, RB/DB Amarian Zambezi, QB/DB Jordan Vega, RB/LB Brayden Gray, OL/DL Draken Montoya. Top juniors: OL/DL Billy Lillis (6-3). Top sophomore: RB/LB Gabriel Davila.

Other prospects: OL/LB Grayson Garza, OL/DL Brady Garcia, OL/DL J.R. Alaniz, WR/DB Zach Delong.

2025 notes: Lesak said the buy-in and work ethic has helped the Eagles get the best out of what they have in the program. RB Zambezi (900 yards rushing, 200 yards receiving, 21 total TDs) is back as a gamebreaker for the Eagles and TE Maxwell contributes in the run game and passing attack. QB/DB Vega makes an impact on both sides (46 tackles, 4 INTs) and RB/LB Gray (75 tackles, 3 sacks) is a leader on defense.

District 16-2A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Christian Chapa, Ben Bolt

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Alfonso Juarez, La Villa

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. La Villa
2. Agua Dulce
3. Ben Bolt
4. Woodsboro
5. Bruni

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

2A DIVISION I Ganado

Ed Kacer's Ganado fandom began on February 28, 1957, the day he opened Kacer's Barber Shop in town.

Kristi Courtwright, a Ganado alum, remembers it as the place to be on Saturday mornings after a game — boys in the chairs, girls on the wall, everyone listening to Kacer talk football. Above them hangs a plaque of every Ganado playoff team since the '50s. Kacer never missed a practice, even in down years.

At 87 years old, he attended Ganado's first-ever Class 2A Division I state championship game, hoping to witness history. He got that — and more — in a 30–28 triple-overtime win over top-ranked Stamford, tying the longest title game in UIL history.

"Take care of business," Kacer told the team at the pep rally. "Then after the game, look around at all the lights."

Ganado held a lead for most of regulation, but Stamford rallied. On 4th-and-13, Stamford QB Christian Duran launched a 41-yard pass to Alek Her-

nandez, setting up the tying touchdown.

Ganado quarterback Bryce Ullman, the Offensive MVP with 220 total yards and three scores, marched his team 95 yards to set up a potential game-winning field goal with two seconds left. It missed.

"We talked all week: the team that handled adversity best would win," Ullman said.

There was more to come. In overtime, sophomore Logan Bures — who had 100 rushing yards and 69 punt return yards — scored, but Stamford answered on 4th-and-4. After a second missed Ganado field goal, the game advanced to a third OT and new two-point conversion format.

Ullman rolled right and found Austen Pena in the back of the end zone. On Stamford's attempt, Ullman sealed the win with an interception.

"We always said we'd get a ring our senior year," he said. "Now we've got one to show all the dads who said they were good back in the day."



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — Coming off a remarkable 2023 and loaded with returning talent, the Indians started No. 1 in *Texas Football's* preseason 2A Division I rankings.

TURNING POINT — A gutty 14–6 win over Region IV power Refugio in the regional semifinals proved the Indians were the class of Division I.

TEAM MVP — Bryce Ullman, who triggered the Indians attack and proved invaluable on defense, including the title-clinching interception.

BY THE NUMBERS — **96**: It took 96 seasons for Ganado to reach a state championship game, but it was worth the wait.

Ganado's Road to the Title (15–1)

Ganado 33, Van Vleck 26
Ganado 21, Boling 7
East Bernard 33, Ganado 12
Ganado 42, Tidehaven 6

Ganado 84, Flatonia 3
Ganado 35, Kenedy 0
Ganado 41, Weimar 0
Ganado 61, Schulenburg 31

Ganado 86, Bloomington 0
Ganado 49, Danbury 0
Ganado 75, Skidmore-Tynan 15
Ganado 59, Crawford 0

Ganado 14, Refugio 6
Ganado 41, Marlin 14
Ganado 35, Joaquin 14
Ganado 30, Stamford 28 (3 OT)

2A DIVISION II Muenster

When Muenster head coach Brady Carney won his first state championship in 2017, he left AT&T Stadium barely remembering a thing.

This time, he won't forget the moment the clock hit 0:00 in a 36–29 win over Shiner in the Class 2A Division II state title game — and he embraced his daughter, Ady, a cheerleader, and his son Casen, the game's Offensive MVP.

"That's every Texas high school football coach's dream," Carney said.

Casen, a junior quarterback, completed 15-of-20 passes for 171 yards and rushed for 147 yards and four touchdowns — including the game-winner with 40 seconds left. After scoring, he turned to the crowd and pointed to his ring finger — the same crowd that once cheered for his father, now cheering for him.

Despite accounting for 318 of Muenster's 352 total yards, both Casen and his father credited the offensive line, receivers, and special teams.

The game's turning point came early:

Muenster recovered a surprise onside kick on the opening kickoff, leading to a touchdown — the extra possession proved critical.

With 5:28 left and down 29–28, Carney faced a 4th-and-14 and sent out senior punter Caden Klement.

"I was hoping for inside the ten," Carney said. "Caden came through and put it inside the one."

Shiner advanced to its own 7-yard line, setting up a pivotal 3rd-and-4. Running their trademark midline veer, the Comanches were close to sealing the win — until Klement, also a linebacker, made a two-yard tackle for loss on quarterback Carson Schuette.

"We had a solid idea what was coming," Klement said. "As soon as the ball's snapped, we're downhill and physical. That's probably one of the biggest plays of the game."

For Carney, winning with his son — and his son's lifelong teammates — made the moment unforgettable.

"I've watched them all grow up," he said. "To see them accomplish their dream means the world."



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — After an up-and-down 2023 season that finished 8–5, the Hornets started No. 5 in *Texas Football's* preseason 2A Division II rankings.

TURNING POINT — Muenster dethroned two-time defending champ Albany in the regional semifinal, signaling that there's a new sheriff in town.

TEAM MVP — Casen Carney, the coach's kid who seemed to meet the moment every step of the journey to the state title.

BY THE NUMBERS — **1,140**: Receiving yards for tight end Garrett Hess, which ranked 7th in all of Class 2A.

Muenster's Road to the Title (14–2)

Muenster 54, Fort Worth Lake Country 6
Holliday 49, Muenster 35
Muenster 56, Windthorst 21
Pottsboro 32, Muenster 27

Muenster 50, DeLeon 21
Muenster 44, Lindsay 0
Muenster 64, Era 6
Muenster 43, Santo 7

Muenster 34, Collinsville 20
Muenster 58, Chico 0
Muenster 70, Hamlin 0
Muenster 60, Wheeler 15

Muenster 56, Albany 14
Muenster 54, Collinsville 14
Muenster 49, Gruver 26
Muenster 36, Shiner 29

DC
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David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 2A

Class 2A SEASON IN REVIEW

2024 TSWA CLASS 2A ALL-STATE TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Bryce Ullman, Ganado

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Kaston Vega, Stamford

COACH OF THE YEAR: Josh Ervin, Ganado

First-Team Offense

OG Jessie Rodriguez, Stamford
OG Brayden Henderson, Refugio
OT Wesley Maupin, Gruver
OT Zach Smith, Muenster
OC Juan Hernandez, Weimar
WR Jayden Edwards, Overton
WR Cooper Ellison, Miles
TE Camden Ables, Hawley
TE Garrett Hess, Muenster
QB Bryce Ullman, Ganado
RB Ian Vergara, Post
RB Jordan King, Refugio
RB HD Davis, Wolfe City
FB Kaegan Ash, Mount Enterprise
AP Coldyn Horn, Axtell
PK Marcos Estrada, Junction

First-Team Defense

DL Gavin Pollard, Garrison
DL Victor Saenz, Ropes
DL Jackson Graves, Wheeler
DL Jared Werner, Shiner
LB Kaston Vega, Stamford
LB Kaden Riker, Ropes
LB Garrett Trevino, Collinsville
LB Kye Adamek, Shiner
LB Levi Beavers, Honey Grove
DB Stephen Cowan, Gruver
DB Jake Simper, Shiner
DB Keith Crawford, Somerville
DB Luke Sanderson, Goldthwaite
P Brandon Berend, Windthorst
UT Logan Bures, Ganado
KR Brandon Kennedy, Elysian Fields

Second-Team Offense

OG Chris Turner, Three Rivers
OG Tyler Gilchrist, Lovelady
OT Diego Cantu, Stamford
OT Rickie Gilmore, Grapeland
OC Rylan Todd, Mason
WR Carson Kahlig, Rosebud-Lott
WR Carter Snider, Hawkins
WR Caden Klement, Muenster
TE Tyson Oden, Beckville
QB DJ Barnes, Shelbyville
RB Elijah Hardison, Joaquin
RB Suttan Silerio, Mason
RB Walker Maupin, Gruver
RB Jordan Prince, Beckville
FB Shiloh Peckham, Cayuga
AP DeMontrel Medlock, Mart
PK Sam De La Mata, Muenster

Second-Team Defense

DL Brysen Maxwell-Steele, Marlin
DL Case Beeson, Stamford
DL Cody Mahan, Honey Grove
DL Jackson Bates, Hamilton
LB Tank Scott, Bremond
LB Eddy Carrizales, Bremond
LB Landon Hicks, Ganado
LB Bobby Rogers, Tom Bean
DB Garrett Ashurst, Wheeler
DB Branson Simental, Ropes
DB Tate Bass, Joaquin
DB Nate Harlow, Electra
P Cole Bruister, Timpson
UT Maziq Gunnell, Kerens
KR Maverick Bayer, Muenster



Photo Credit: Hale Hughes

Where Legends Begin

CLASS 2A PLAYOFF RESULTS

DIVISION I

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Sunray 41, Olton 0; Hawley 57, Ozona 21; Post 42, Spearman 33; Anson 46, Christoval 11; Cisco 34, Reagan County 16; Abernathy 35, Stinnett West Texas 18; Stamford 45, Sonora 8; Panhandle 42, New Home 21; Region II: Hamilton 49, Whitewright 13; Frankston 30, Italy 14; Tioga 42, Ballinger 7; Kerens 49, Dawson 14; Axtell 24, Cayuga 10; Coleman 40, Wolfe City 35; Mildred 56, Rio Vista 13; De Leon 48, Alvord 7; Region III: Honey Grove 56, Elysian Fields 20; Hearne 31, Timpson 21; Waskom 67, Omaha Pewitt 20; Garrison 56, Corrigan-Camden 13; Shelbyville 62, Jewett Leon 7; Beckville 56, Bogota Rivercrest 28; Joaquin 38, Centerville 28; Cooper 56, Big Sandy 41; Region IV: Marlin 51, Holland 7; Schulenburg 42, Three Rivers 28; Mason 69, Rosebud-Lott 14; Weimar 57, Santa Maria 13; Ganado 75, Skidmore-Tynan 15; Crawford 21, San Saba 15; Refugio 65, Kenedy 6; Thorndale 41, Riesel 35. **AREA** – Region I: Sunray 49, Hawley 40; Post 42 Anson 35; Cisco 38, Abernathy 19; Stamford 49, Panhandle 13; Region II: Hamilton 27, Frankston 14; Kerens 33, Tioga 22; Axtell 45, Coleman 6; Mildred 30, De Leon 20; Region III: Honey Grove 36, Hearne 7; Waskom 15, Garrison 7; Shelbyville 75, Beckville 48; Joaquin 32, Cooper 24; Region IV: Marlin 35, Schulenburg 14; Mason 56, Weimar 28; Ganado 59, Crawford 0; Refugio 51, Thorndale 14. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Post 34, Sunray 31; Stamford 55, Cisco 7; Region II: Hamilton 14, Kerens 7; Axtell 35, Mildred 13; Region III: Honey Grove 54, Waskom 29; Joaquin 54, Shelbyville 30; Region IV: Marlin 40, Mason 37; Ganado 14, Refugio 6. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Stamford 48, Post 26; Region II: Hamilton 15, Axtell 14; Region III: Joaquin 46, Honey Grove 22; Region IV: Ganado 41, Marlin 14. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Stamford 28, Hamilton 13; Ganado 35, Joaquin 14. **STATE FINAL** – Ganado 30, Stamford 28.

DIVISION II

BI-DISTRICT – Region I: Gruver 49, Morton 6; Iraan 33, Seagraves 20; Hale Center 61, Bovina 6; Tahoka 46, Eldorado 19; Ropesville Ropes 65, Sterling City 12; Farwell 41, Sudan 20; Wink 50, Sundown 0; Stratford 69, Crosbyton 8; Region II: Wellington 36, Petrolia 0; Collinsville 52, Roscoe 0; Windthorst 62, Quanah 14; Lindsay 34, Miles 27; Albany 46, Era 0; Archer City 51, Shamrock 14; Muenster 70, Hamlin 0; Wheeler 44, Electra 14; Region III: Goldthwaite 55, Maud 12; Grapeland 42, West Sabine 20; Mart 68, Cumby 20; Overton 68, Evadale 0; Lovelady 41, West Hardin 6; Bremond 50, Simms Bowie 0; Mount Enterprise 40, Deweyville 16; Wortham 76, Clarksville 30; Region IV: Somerville 45, D'Anis 0; Ben Bolt 38, Yorktown 19; Junction 61, Iola 26; Falls City 42, Agua Dulce 6; Shiner 69, Woodsboro 6; Brackettville 27, Burton 26; La Villa 42, Louise 20; Granger 42, La Pryor 3. **AREA** – Region I: Gruver 49, Iraan 19; Tahoka 42, Hale Center 21; Ropesville Ropes 28, Farwell 0; Wink 42, Stratford 20; Region II: Collinsville 24, Wellington 13; Windthorst 30, Lindsay 27; Albany 48, Archer City 14; Muenster 60, Wheeler 15; Region III: Grapeland 39, Goldthwaite 29; Overton 31, Mart 30; Bremond 34, Lovelady 14; Mount Enterprise 32, Wortham 28; Region IV: Somerville 45, Ben Bolt 14; Junction 35, Falls City 13; Shiner 54, Brackettville 7; Granger 51, La Villa 21. **REGIONAL SEMIS** – Region I: Gruver 49, Tahoka 7; Ropesville Ropes 21, Wink 14; Region II: Collinsville 52, Windthorst 34; Muenster 56, Albany 14; Region III: Grapeland 31, Overton 23; Bremond 26, Mount Enterprise 20; Region IV: Junction 32, Somerville 0; Shiner 43, Granger 23. **REGIONAL FINALS** – Region I: Gruver 34, Ropesville Ropes 21; Region II: Muenster 54, Collinsville 14; Region III: Bremond 45, Grapeland 14; Region IV: Shiner 27, Junction 0. **STATE SEMIFINALS** – Muenster 49, Gruver 26, Shiner 41 Bremond 33. **STATE FINAL** – Muenster 36, Shiner 29.

**CLASS 1A**

Boys Ranch athlete Cord'e Jackson leaps to deliver a pass during the Roughriders' non-district game against Silverton. Jackson accounted for 14 total touchdowns — 8 rushing, 4 passing, and 2 receiving — and is a key reason for optimism in Boys Ranch's second year playing six-man football.

Photo by James Michael Abel

Class 1A Cover Boys **STRYKER REED + RY REED**

GORDON'S DYNAMIC DUO MAKING SIX-MAN HISTORY

BY GREG TEPPER

It's hard to stumble into Gordon, Texas — population: 470. It's just a couple miles off of I-20 in Palo Pinto County, but if you blow past the exit for Highway 193, you're out of luck.

But if you can find your way there, you may just find some of Texas' last true hidden gems.

Stryker Reed and Ry Reed are the headline attractions for the Gordon Longhorns, the two-time defending 1A Division I state champions. The numbers are staggering: Stryker, the 2024 Division I player of the year, accounted for 44 total touchdowns — rushing, receiving, passing and defense; Ry, the 2023 player of the year who had to settle for Offensive MVP honors last season, scored 31 times in total.

That's 75 touchdowns between the two, a stat made all the more flabbergasting by the fact that Gordon only played 320 minutes and 15 seconds of actual football last season — 13 of the Longhorns' 15 games ended at halftime due to six-man football's 45-point mercy rule, and only one game went the full 40 minutes.

Put another way: someone with the last name Reed was in the end zone every 256 seconds.

But if you're worried about infighting over who gets the touches, don't be.

"You can be selfish when other people have the ball," Stryker Reed said. "I'm gonna go get mine — I'm gonna pancake this guy, I'm gonna make sure I get my blocks. You can still stand out on film even when you don't have the ball."

It's a way of thinking that starts at the top, with head coach Mike Reed.

"You have to preach a propaganda mindset and brainwash them," Mike Reed said. "It's never about the name on the back of the shirt — it's about the name on the front."

Though the name on the back of the shirt is the same, the Reeds are of no relation — Stryker is Mike's son, and Ry is the son of head basketball coach Shad Reed. Shad enjoyed a successful run with Callisburg's hoops team before Gordon needed a coach in 2022, and Ry was quick to make friends in his new town.

"I think the first time I met everybody was at Stryker's birthday party — and from then on, we were just attached the whole summer," Ry Reed said. "I knew right away this was gonna be like a family."

That familial relationship has paid dividends in the form of the back-to-back state titles, plus excellence on the basketball floor and the track. But even with two titles under their belt, there's

no sense of an accomplished mission.

"We're not satisfied," Ry said. "We want to make sure that if somebody talks about the greatest six-man teams to ever play, they say the Gordon Longhorns."

Stryker and Ry's exploits are even escaping the usually insular Class 1A football ecosystem — the duo made history this offseason in being named the first six-man players to be named three-star prospects by Dave Campbell's *Texas Football*. The duo have picked up offers from the likes of UTSA and Army, and there's more on the horizon.

It's no surprise to their head coach. If anything, it's a long-time coming.

"If Stryker was playing at North Crowley or

Westlake, he'd be getting recruited by Alabama and Texas," Mike Reed said. "He's that kind of talent — it's just a little harder for us."

It's all part of the struggles of getting recognition at the smallest UIL classification, and playing a distinctly different brand of football.

"If you're coming from six-man, you're not one position — you're an athlete," Stryker said. "That's the coach's job to figure out where you fit."

For now, the Gordon duo — fresh off leading the Longhorns to a state track title — have eyes set on a three-peat. They'll work together, but there is one thing they disagree on.

"I know Stryker probably told you he's faster than me," Ry said. "But he's not. I'm faster."



Ry REED

The Gordon star athlete and his teammate Stryker Reed are breaking new ground in the six-man world, both on the field and in recruiting.

Photo by Blake Purcell

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A STATE RANKINGS

DIVISION I

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 GORDON Can anyone stop the Longhorns' dynasty?	15-0	5/4
2.	 WHITEFACE Antelopes poised for another run at the title	14-1	3/3
3.	 WATER VALLEY Boston Wiese (198 tackles, 21 total TDs) is a menace	11-3	4/4
4.	 MAY After last year's first-round exit, the Tiger are loaded	9-2	5/5
5.	 AQUILLA A senior-heavy ballclub gives the Cougars some bite	11-2	4/5
6.	 GILMER UNION HILL EJ Mowery headlines a high-ceiling group of Bulldogs	9-3	5/5
7.	 ABBOTT It's a reload for the Panthers, but they don't stay down long	13-1	0/2
8.	 AVALON The Eagles welcome back 2,100-yard rusher Josh Novak	10-1	4/3
9.	 BORDEN COUNTY There's star power here, but it's the newcomers that'll tell the tale	8-5	4/4
10.	 NEWCASTLE Last year was the preview; these Bobcats are a feature presentation	7-5	5/6
11.	 BUENA VISTA Defense will lead the way, especially early	9-1	3/4
12.	 JONESBORO Coach Eddie Gallegos' Eagles got wiped by graduation	10-2	0/1
13.	 WESTBROOK For the first time this decade, the Wildcats have questions	10-3	2/2
14.	 HAPPY Braylan King is a stud, but pieces must develop around him	10-2	1/1
15.	 ROBERT LEE There's a lot to like for coach Lee McCown's Steers	7-4	4/4
16.	 MILFORD Just two players graduated from last year's playoff team	6-5	6/6
17.	 SPUR This team's got speed and experience, especially defensively	10-1	2/4
18.	 RANKIN Track state champ Jairo Cruz gives the Red Devils a weapon	6-5	3/4
19.	 MENARD If the Yellowjackets find an answer at QB, watch out	9-2-1	5/5
20.	 MEDINA The junior-heavy Bobcats may be a year away	5-7	5/5
21.	 HERMLEIGH The Cardinals' defense is the headliner here	7-3	4/5
22.	 IRA New coach Jess Wall inherits a pedigree-laden program	7-4	3/3
23.	 PERRIN-WHITT Cole Keeney and Riley Simms are the Pirates' one-two punch	7-3	5/4
24.	 SAINT JO CJ Hantz is one of Texas' bright young coaches	10-2	2/2
25.	 LOMETA The Hornets played a ton of young up-and-comers in 2024	7-3	4/4

DIVISION II

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 JAYTON The Jaybirds bring back the core of last year's title team	15-0	4/4
2.	 KLONDIKE Cougars are ready after playing one of Texas' toughest schedules	9-5	6/5
3.	 RICHLAND SPRINGS You can never, ever count out the Coyotes	12-1	4/3
4.	 OGLESBY A special group graduated, but the Tigers are still a threat	11-3	4/4
5.	 CHEROKEE The Indians have a rare commodity in Division II: size	10-2	5/5
6.	 STRAWN Every player is back from last year's playoff team...all of 'em!	8-3	6/6
7.	 IREDELL Luis Guereca's Dragons are fast, physical and experienced	10-3	5/5
8.	 OAKWOOD What do the Panthers do for an encore to last year's stunning run?	9-6	5/5
9.	 BENJAMIN Keegan Hayes is the new tip of the spear for the Mustangs	9-2	4/4
10.	 MOTLEY COUNTY Culley Lawrence could be the next big thing in six-man	11-1	5/4
11.	 ZEPHYR The Bulldogs have it all, if they can sort out the QB spot	10-2	4/4
12.	 WHITHARRAL Speed will define the Panthers; can they match up in the trenches?	7-3	5/4
13.	 BLUFF DALE After a retrenching year in 2024, this team's ready for a leap	6-4	5/5
14.	 ACKERLY SANDS Gordo Soliz ran for 2,000 yards and 38 scores...as a freshman	8-4	4/4
15.	 BLACKWELL A brutal non-district slate should serve the Hornets well	5-7	4/4
16.	 PADUCAH Coach Eric Rekieta is excited about his Dragons; so are we	6-4	4/4
17.	 THREE WAY Senior leadership should be the Braves' calling card	9-2	3/3
18.	 MIAMI The Warriors' size could give teams plenty of trouble	6-4	4/4
19.	 BOWIE GOLD-BURG Bears are seeking back-to-back playoff berths for the first time	7-5	3/2
20.	 FOLLETT Expectations are high, as usual, in Lipscomb County	8-4	3/3
21.	 BLANKET There's young talent all over this roster, which bodes well	8-2-1	4/4
22.	 MCLEAN Last year was an aberration; the Tigers should roar in '25	4-6	4/5
23.	 GUSTINE New coach Landry Gunter is excited about his Tigers	7-2	4/4
24.	 AMHERST If the Bulldogs survive a tough district, watch out	7-3	4/4
25.	 ROCHELLE Size and strength will lead the Hornets, especially early	5-5	3/3

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A **PREVIEW**

THE SIX-MAN CYCLE SPINS AGAIN

BY GREG TEPPER

One of the strange phenomenons of six-man football in Texas is that state championships tend to come in bunches.

To wit: since the UIL sanctioned a six-man state championship in 1972, there have been 20 instances in which the reigning six-man state champion won it again the next year. That's 20 repeat champions in just 53 seasons — more than a third of the time, you can expect a team to hoist the hardware again.

Same song, different verse — and 2025 looks to follow a similar history.

Division I champion Gordon's already gained entry into the back-to-back club, and now the Longhorns look ready to make it a third. Few six-man football teams have ever boasted a three-headed monster like Mike Reed's ballclub will, as Stryker Reed, Ry Reed and Brayden Walters attempt to etch their name in 1A history.

In Region I, Whiteface stormed its way to AT&T Stadium last season, and the Antelopes have a lot of the nuts and bolts back in the fold, though new playmakers must develop. Looming large within the Antelopes' district, though, is another member of the two-timers club: Borden County, which welcomes back quarterback Tye Stipe to a team anxious for another shot at Whiteface. Buena Vista is another team to watch here, though their reward for winning their district is a first-round matchup with whoever loses the Whiteface-Borden County game.

Over in Region II, Water Valley looks like the early frontrunner thanks to a veteran group of playmakers returning, not the least of which is two-way dynamo Boston Wiese. They're the team to beat here, but keep an eye on Newcastle, which improved significantly as the season wore on in 2024, and Westbrook, no stranger to the big stage themselves.

There's no better theater in Division I than in Region III, where at least four teams can lay claim to being the favorite. Aquilla's case: a senior-heavy team with quality depth. Union Hill's case: the electrifying EJ Mowery leading the way. Abbott's case: well, they won the region last year, even if there's reloading to do. And Avalon's case: a physical group plowing the road for 2,000-yard back Josh Novak. Expect fireworks.

Region IV is Gordon's territory, and it'll take a special effort to knock them off their perch. But perhaps May is up for the challenge, with 10 starters back from a playoff team including speedy running back Kobey Morris. Jonesboro is

a perennial power, but coach Eddie Gallegos has some rebuilding to do after 11 of last year's 13 players are gone to graduation.

As a program, Jayton's spot in the repeat club is secure thanks to 1984-85 double-dip, but the Jaybirds have eyes on becoming just the third six-man program to repeat twice. And there's ample reason to believe they can do just that in Division II, as Sean Stanaland and Bode Ham anchor a squad long on both experience and explosiveness.

Perhaps the biggest threat to Jayton's throne resides in Region I: Klondike. Dalton DeGraffenreid's Cougars faced a brutal non-district schedule and actually started 0-4 before rattling off nine straight wins en route to the state semifinals. Now they're a battle-tested crew, with all but one player back and Jared Quintanilla leading the charge. If Klondike were to slip, Motley County or Whitharral look like the most likely beneficiaries.

Jayton's grasp on Region II feels fairly secure, but wild things can and do happen. If they do, Benjamin is fully reloaded to take advantage of it behind running back Keegan Hayes, who ac-

counted for a shocking 4,365 total yards and 73 touchdowns a year ago. And Blackwell's speed could be a great equalizer here, welcoming back eight starters from last year's strong-finishing squad.

Region III produced the state's biggest surprise last year as Oakwood — which finished the regular season at 5-5 — charged all the way to the title game. The Panthers' mettle has been tested, but they'll need to get past some foes to get back, including Strawn — which returns every single player from last year's playoff team — and Iredell, who may have the best combination of size and speed in the region.

But if you're looking for a three-way dance of seismic proportions, look no further than Region IV, where Richland Springs, Oglesby and Cherokee will size one another up for a spot in the state semifinals. Richland Springs may have the early edge here, with Billy Perry and Cohen Ethridge among the seven starters back for the Coyotes, but if Oglesby can find a suitable replacement for Kyler Fossett or Cherokee can develop quality depth, it'll be a fight to the finish.



Boston WEISE

The Water Valley superstar made 198 tackles and scored 21 touchdowns in a showstopping junior season, and is in for an even bigger 2025.

Photo by Adrian Luna

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A



Stryker
Reed | GORDON

Photo Credit: Madeline Duncan



Colt
Gentry | JAYTON

Photo Credit: Madeline Duncan

#MustSeeTXHSFB

Everyone knows the five-star blue-chip prospects, but these are the guys that the real ball-knowers will be talking about during the 2025 season.

Who's your under-the-radar star in Class 1A?
Let us know using the hashtag #MustSeeTXHSFB



Oakwood QB **DAYDEN VELASQUEZ** led the Panthers to unthinkable heights last season, driving them to the state championship game, and he can do it again.

Photo Credit: Hale Hughes



Menard's **JAYDEN PAYTON** earned District MVP and all-region honors as a junior by running for 1,750 yards and 26 TDs, throwing for five touchdowns.

Photo Credit: Adrian Luna

NEED to KNOW: CLASS 1A

PRESEASON ALL-STATE

Offense

TE Slay Bowley, Klondike
WR Brayden Walters, Gordon
WR Nate Samaniego, Robert Lee
OL Trapper Schoenhals, Zephyr
TC Kristopher Gorecki, Miami
SC Mitch Mobley, Union Hill
QB Isaak Soliz, Whiteface
RB Bode Ham, Jayton
RB Michael Barcnas, Strawn
RB Ry Reed, Gordon
SB Jared Quintanilla, Klondike
UTIL Stryker Reed, Gordon
K Isael Rodriguez, Klondike

Defense

DL Colt Gentry, Jayton
DL Kayson Campbell, Oglesby
DL Caleb Garland, Iredell
LB Boston Weise, Water Valley
LB TC Hennig, Aquilla
LB Caden Valdez, Buena Vista
DB Sean Stanaland, Jayton
DB Tye Stipe, Borden County
DB Paul Johannes, Motley County
DB EJ Mowery, Union Hill
UTIL Cohen Ethridge, Richland Springs
P Sonny Payne, Paint Creek



Clint
Linman | WHITEFACE

Photo Credit: Madeline Duncan

PREVIEW GLOSSARY

DISTRICTS — Teams are divided up by the UIL into geographic districts. The first quarter of districts are Region I, the second quarter Region II, and so on.

PLAYOFFS — In Class 1A, the top two teams in each district make the playoffs. They are then placed in their respective bracket, either Division I or Division II.

(1,419) — A number in parentheses next to a team is the school's enrollment as reported to the UIL.

LETTERMEN R/L — The number of varsity players from last year that a team returns and lost.

STARTERS O/D — The number of starters from last year that a team returns on offense and defense.

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

The road to Arlington and the UIL Texas high school football state championships starts now. Here's our projection for who will need to clear room in their trophy case in 2025.

DIVISION I

Region I: Whiteface over Borden County
Region II: Water Valley over Westbrook
Region III: Aquilla over Union Hill
Region IV: Gordon over May

STATE CHAMP: GORDON

If the Longhorns stay healthy, they may prove to be one of the finest teams in recent Texas six-man football history.

DIVISION II

Region I: Klondike over Whitharral
Region II: Jayton over Benjamin
Region III: Strawn over Oakwood
Region IV: Richland Springs over Oglesby

STATE CHAMP: JAYTON

The Jaybirds got to the top on the strength of its defense, and they look poised to get there again for the same reason.

THREE DISTRICTS to WATCH

DISTRICT 6-1A DI

The mark of a fun group: nobody finishes district play unbeaten. Newcastle, Perrin-Whitt, Knox City, Bryson and Northside will fight.

DISTRICT 16-1A DI

Prairie Lea snapped the state's longest playoff drought in '24; to make it back-to-back, they'll need to survive a balanced district.

DISTRICT 10-1A DII

It's a three-way dance! Gold-Burg, Fannindel and Forestburg all enter the season knowing Weeks 10 and 11 tell the tale.

Class 1A SLEEPERS

Not everyone can start the year in *Texas Football's* rankings, but these are the teams that could make us look really silly for leaving them out.

BOOKER

The transition to six-man has been relatively smooth, but now the Kiowas face a rebuild.

EVANT

Commonly known as America's Team, the Elks' experience should make them a team to watch.

BALMORHEA

After a forgettable year by their standards, the Bears welcome back 11 starters.

CHESTER

Ten starters return from a playoff team that has a legit chance to win its district.

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BOOKER KIOWAS (94)

Coach: David Biddler. Letterman R/L: 15/10. Starters returning O/D: 1/2. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-0 district. Players to watch: QB Marco Flores (5-9, 160), RB Reynn Rosales (6-0, 170), FB Heydn Rosales (5-11, 200), RB Axel Valdivia (5-7, 150).

2025 notes: Booker has made the adjustment to the Six-Man level quite smoothly, winning a district championship in Year 2, not to mention a playoff game. This year will look different with the loss of a big senior class.

BOYS RANCH ROUGHRIDERS (93)

Coach: Louis Kelley Jr. Letterman R/L: 12/1. Starters returning O/D: 6-6. 2024: 0-10/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jacob Gonzales (5-9, 180, 4.6), ATH Cord'e Jackson (5-9, 175, 4.5), WR/LB William Harris (5-8, 160, 4.6), RB/DL Gavin Elbersh (5-8, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Zeke Holman (5-9, 150, 4.5), QB/LB Isaac Acosta (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Mi'kael Cooper (5-10, 190, 5.0), OL/DL Brady Seelman (6-2, 200, 5.2), QB/WR Camden Yarbrough (5-11, 150, 4.9), DB Gauge Harold, WR/DL Ethan Paulo, ATH Zack Aldrete, ATH Casey Macwhite, OL/DL Sebastian Anaya.

2025 notes: The transition to the six-man ranks didn't go as coach Kelley and the Roughriders wanted last year. Boys Ranch struggled to a winless season. That's the bad news. The good news is there's a ton of veteran leadership to help turn things around.

CLAUDE MUSTANGS (88)

Coach: Brantlee Lemons. Letterman R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Trapper Godfrey (5-10, 160), TE/DE Brady Shelton (5-11, 185), LB Thomas Slack (5-10, 185), QB Holden Tice (5-10, 160), WR Korbin Jackson (6-0, 190), QB Jett Godfrey (5-9, 170).

2025 notes: Following a carousel of coaches in the past, Lemons has brought stability to the Mustangs entering his fifth season. Last year was a winning season despite missing the playoffs, but Claude has what it takes to make a run at the postseason.

WHITE DEER BUCKS (77)

Coach: Ruben Guerrero. Letterman R/L: 8/0. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-7/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Caynden Myneer, DB Logan Matlock, RB Davin Hext, DB Foster Black, DB Karson Vaughn, LB Maddox Bowers, LB Lucas Radina, DB Creed Powell, RB Izaya Chavez, QB Kaleb House.

2025 notes: Veteran coach Guerrero returns to White Deer from a previous stint 20 years ago. He inherits a Bucks team that returns all six starters on both sides of the ball so experience is going to be very valuable.

WILDORADO MUSTANGS (72)

Coach: Diamon Hughes. Letterman R/L: 12/5. Starters

returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Zay Reyes (5-5, 165, 4.6), RB Zavian Pacheco (5-9, 175, 4.9), DL Xane Garcia (5-10, 175, 4.8), DL Riley Bradshaw (6-0, 185, 4.9), RB Omar Valdez (5-10, 155, 4.7), LB Brenden Reyes (5-9, 160, 4.9), WR Jayston Lovvorn (6-2, 185, 4.9), QB Kingston Brumley (6-2, 175, 5.1), DL Aaron Garcia (5-10, 225, 5.2), WR Kraegan Pesina, WR Jess Webb, QB Jaek Lovvorn, DL Jayden Galvan, DL Jordan Burns, DL Adrian Castillo.

2025 notes: Kress will be a very experienced group especially at the Six-Man level with 16 returning lettermen and five starters returning on both sides of the ball. The Kangaroos return a plethora of skill players in returning passer QB Brumley, leading rusher RB Pacheco and WR Jayston Lovvorn.

NAZARETH SWIFTS (74)

Coach: Tyler Goodwin. Letterman R/L: 4/8. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Breck Proctor (6-0, 160, 5.0), RB/DB Cameron Pohlmeier (5-9, 150, 4.9), QB/RB/LB Lincoln Pohlmeier (5-10, 165, 5.0), WR/DB Blaise Snead (6-1, 160, 5.2), TE/DL Daniel Schacher (5-10, 180, 5.3), RB/LB Zane Schulte (5-9, 160, 5.0), TE/DB Tripp Ethridge (5-10, 150, 5.0), FB/LB Rhett Ethridge (5-9, 165, 5.4).

2025 notes: The Swifts have a path for redemption after a proud program missed the postseason last

District 1-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Marco Flores, Booker

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Trapper Godfrey, Claude

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Booker
2. Claude
3. Wildorado
4. White Deer
5. Boys Ranch

returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 6-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Caden McLaughlin (5-8, 160, 4.4), WR/DB Kole Skidgel (5-8, 155, 4.8), WR/DL Riley McElroy (6-2, 175, 4.5), OL/DL Xvier Howard (5-7, 212, 5.4), OL/DL Calvin Ivy (6-0, 180, 5.3), QB/DB Jacob Barnett (5-8, 160), WR/LB Eli Walker (6-1, 160, 4.5), QB/DB Brayden Sides (5-8, 145), DB/K Cain Albracht (5-10, 155, 4.7), WR/QB/DB Rusty Kinsey.

2025 notes: Wildorado lost most of its offense with Braddek Darnell and Blu Washington graduating. WR Skidgel (960 yards, 14 TDs receiving) had a breakout season. RB McLaughlin will fill a void in the backfield and Barnett is the next man up at QB.

HAPPY COWBOYS (91)

Coach: Stacy Perryman. Letterman R/L: 3/8. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Braylan King (5-11, 160, 4.5), FB/DB Luke Dempsey (5-11, 160, 4.8), TE/DL Kaden Baker (5-11, 170, 4.8), QB/LB Rayce Cameron (5-10, 160), TE/DL AJ Seal (6-0, 170, 4.8).

2025 notes: RB King (1,368 yards, 29 TDs rushing) is back to anchor a Happy squad that doesn't have a lot of experience returning. The Cowboys have been a staple in the Texas Panhandle when it comes to deep playoff runs so it's up to the young guys to carry on tradition.

HART LONGHORNS (66)

Coach: Adan Carrasco. Letterman R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 0-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Jayden Juzairo (6-0, 160, 4.7), RB Liam Marin (5-7, 135, 4.9), RB Tradien Worsham (5-7, 140, 4.6), OL Hayden Hernandez (5-11, 180, 5.1), OL Juan Hernandez (5-10, 175, 4.9), RB Yael Soltero (5-10, 180, 4.8).

2025 notes: Last season is a year Carrasco wants to move on from and forget. The Longhorns have nine returning starters, which builds promise. One thing to look for at first glance is the team speed.

KRESS KANGAROOS (84)

Coach: James Shelton. Letterman R/L: 16/3.

year. Having RB/LB Schulte back helps in a huge way after missing all of last season with an injury.

SPRINGLAKE-EARTH WOLVERINES (101)

Coach: Juan Salas. Letterman R/L: 10/3. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 5-5 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Froylan Agundiz (5-9, 185, 4.5), FB/DL Donovan Stiggers (5-9, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Victor Juarez (6-2, 235, 5.0), RB/LB Bryan Longoria.

2025 notes: Salas brought in a hard-nosed work ethic and that was reflected with a gritty effort last season. Earth has the expectations of a district championship and making a deeper push into the postseason than last year.

District 2-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Braylan King, Happy

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Donovan Stiggers, Springlake-Earth

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Happy
2. Springlake-Earth
3. Nazareth
4. Kress
5. Hart



Kaden
BAKER
TE/DL
Happy



Donovan
STIGGERS
FB/DL
Springlake-Earth



Froylan
AGUNDIZ
QB/DB
Springlake-Earth



Adrian
GARZA-WEST
OL/DL
Spur



Josh
ORTIZ
RB/LB
Spur



London
MARTINEZ
SB
Newcastle



Mikey
SAITO
RB/LB
Newcastle



Landon
LACY
QB/DB
Water Valley



Ayden
MARTINEZ
TE/LB
Milford



Swish
WASHINGTON
SB/DB
Milford



Ej
MOWERY
SB/DB
Union Hill



Brayden
WALTERS
WR
Gordon



Justin
DOMINGUEZ
QB
Benavides



Luke
SMITH
WR/DB
Klondike

Where Legends Begin

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BORDEN COUNTY COYOTES (81)

Coach: Craig Steele. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-5 region finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Tye Stipe (5-10, 145, 4.5), RB/DB Issac Martinez (5-9, 160, 4.7), TE/DE Jett Napper (6-1, 185), RB/DE Adam Sosa (5-8, 180), TE/DE Ethan Scott (6-1, 180), C/DE Josiah Orosco (5-8, 250), RB/DB Jonathan Martinez (5-6, 155), TE/LB Luke Stansell (6-0, 165).

Other prospects: WR/DB Jaycob Fry, QB/DB Landon Grigsby, C/DE Drew Freeman, TE/DE Mason Cheatham, RB/DB Eli Grigsby.

2025 notes: QB/DB Stipe is going to be counted on to not just play a bigger role on offense as a junior, but to also lead the defense. His ability to step into that role will be critical as Borden County looks for roles to be defined by new starters.

MEADOW BRONCOS (68)

Coach: Jacob Guzman. Lettermen R/L: 10/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Pancho Arita, RB Brayson Parker, FB Isaac Estrada.

2025 notes: QB Arita will be a driving force in how the Broncos do in 2025 and the junior has started since he was a freshman, alongside RB Parker and FB Estrada. Parker is the featured back in Meadow's rushing attack and benefits from Estrada's blocking.

BUENA VISTA LONGHORNS (93)

Coach: Jacob Benavidez. Lettermen R/L: 22/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 9-1 bi-district finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Caden Valdez (6-2, 190, 4.7), C Brayan Ulloa (5-9, 195, 5.0), RB JV Kelly (5-10, 175, 4.7), QB/DB Ezra Gamboa (5-8, 160, 4.6), TE Tyler Rogers (6-3, 170, 4.8), DB Jack Meadows (5-10, 160, 4.9), RB Gio Colunga.

2025 notes: The Longhorns enter the season with speed all over the field and the promise of being dynamic on offense and defense. LB Valdez is returning from injury, and Benavidez looks for him to have a big senior year as Buena Vista looks to make a playoff run.

GARDEN CITY BEARKATS (98)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 16/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Brody Walts (6-0, 170), C/DL Roberto Almazan (6-0, 235), QB/DB Presley Jost (5-8, 140), OL/DL Brik Fryar (5-8, 165), TE/DL Rylan Jones (5-6, 145), LB Uziel Lopez (5-7, 155). Top junior: RB/DL Keegan Landers (5-8, 160), RB/DB Miles Colunga (5-5, 130).

Other prospects: QB/DB/K Miles Halfmann, OL/DL Rylan Cypert, ATH Karson Lowery, RB/LB Caleb Garza.

2025 notes: Sophomore RB/DB Colunga (586 yards, 7 TDs rushing) made an impact last year as the Bearkats missed the postseason and should

LORENZO HORNETS (73)

Coach: Brian Sepkowitz. Lettermen R/L: 6/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-6/1-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Marciano Garcia, ATH Keagan Cisneros, WR Kye Bales, WR Trey Wilkerson, RB Dalys Phillips, DL Urijah Villegas, LB Jaden Lozoya, LB Jonathan Torres, WR Azarian Luna, RB Mario Reyna.

2025 notes: While OL Garcia and RB Phillips bring senior leadership to the Hornets, it is a pair of juniors in ATH Cisneros and DL Villegas that could determine how successful Lorenzo is.

PETERSBURG BUFFALOES (88)

Coach: Marcos Rendon. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 1/2. 2024: 4-6/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Demetrius Mendez (5-8, 155, 4.8), QB Ethan Cedillo (5-7, 145). Top junior: OL Joshua Cantu (5-8, 225), WR Eliab Nava (5-8, 165).

Other prospects: LB Robert Ramirez, FB Evan Lopez.

2025 notes: This fall is shaping up to be a rebuilding year for the Buffaloes as they are replacing most of their roster from last year. Rendon knows that Petersburg is going to lack size and experience this year but is optimistic that it can be offset by the team's work ethic and speed.

SILVERTON OWLS (72)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 11/4. Starters

O'DONNELL SCREAMIN' EAGLES (96)

Coach: Fernando Baeza. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 3-7/2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Lincoln Graham (5-8, 125), RB Jayden Costa (5-7, 130), LB Jonah Lowe (5-9, 145), DL Nathaniel Cavazos (6-0, 190), DB Tristan Arthur (5-9, 145).

2025 notes: The Eagles will be undersized and will need to have several players step up in crucial positions to challenge for a playoff berth. Baeza will look to a pair of seniors, LB Lowe and DL Cavazos, to set the tone defensively and hope that carries over to offense.

WELLMAN-UNION WILDCATS (65)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 5/3. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: SB/RB Eli DePoyster (5-8, 135, 4.4), QB/DE Edgar Macias (5-10, 145, 4.5), WR/DB Angel Ramirez (5-6, 130, 4.4), C/DL AJ Mercado (5-8, 175, 4.9), RB/DB Fabian Chavez (5-7, 135, 4.5).

2025 notes: The Wildcats were looking for a coach late in the spring semester and the squad's ability to learn a new system on the fly will be critical. SB/RB DePoyster and WR/DB Ramirez lead a team loaded with speed.

WHITEFACE ANTELOPES (108)

Coach: Clint Linman. Lettermen R/L: 9/6. Starters

take some of the pressure off RB/DB Walts (818 yards, 13 TDs rushing; 355 yards, 10 TDs receiving).

GRADY WILDCATS (74)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-4/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Braxton Dillard, WR/LB Wyatt Creech, DL Charles Deatherage, DE Lane Cearley, QB/DB Nate Senn, RB/DE Jack Salazar, FB/DL Colt Cearley, C/LB Knight Durham.

2025 notes: Despite losing nearly half the roster to graduation, the Wildcats enter the year in great shape with RB/LB Dillard (1,100 yards, 23 TDs rushing) back to carry the load.

MARFA SHORTHORNS (62)

Coach: Kevin Phippen. Lettermen R/L: 5/2. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Ayden Alvarez (5-11, 215, 5.2), QB/DB Alejandro Rodriguez (5-10, 180, 4.9), TE/DE Darren Campos (5-11, 205, 5.3), WR/DB Austin McGary (6-2, 185, 5.0), TE/DL Gary Webb (5-11, 225, 5.4), RB/DE Asael Zubia (5-10, 205, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Shorthorns return five players from last year and will need their leadership with only a dozen players expected to be on the roster. The lack of depth is something that concerns Phippen heading into the year.

returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/DE Cooper Mullins (6-2, 175, 5.0), RB/LB Lucas Holt (5-9, 155, 5.0), C/DE Alonso Beltran (6-2, 195, 5.2), RB/LB Lucas Holt (5-9, 155, 5.0), RB/DB Haygen Lopez (5-9, 140, 4.9), QB Cayden Smith (6-1, 145, 5.4), TE/LB Kesler Barnes.

2025 notes: TE/DE Mullins is an excellent blocker but also knows all the intricacies of the offense and will help set the tone with a new coaching staff. RB/LB Holt is a hard-nosed, downhill runner that burst onto the scene as a sophomore and will benefit from C/DE Beltran's return from an injury.

SPUR BULLDOGS (62)

Coach: Tate Clark. Lettermen R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 10-1 bi-district finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Josh Ortiz (5-11, 155), RB/LB Brody Dempsey (5-6, 155), RB/DB Margarito Pesina (5-7, 130), OL/DL Jagger Zarate (5-10, 155), OL/DL Adrian Garza-West (5-10, 160), OL/DL Steven Hulme (5-9, 295), OL/DL Willie Ortiz (5-10, 170), RB/LB Jaxon Bateman (5-11, 155), QB/DB Brandon Williams, OL/DL Cody Allen, RB/DL Charlie Alderman.

2025 notes: Speed and experience are the key words around the Spur program this year as it brings back its defensive core from 2024. OL/DL Ortiz (90 tackles) and RB/DB Pesina (64 tackles) played pivotal roles as juniors and will benefit from the physicality of RB/LB Dempsey.

District 3-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Tye Stipe, Borden County

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Isaak Soliz, Whiteface

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Whiteface | 3. O'Donnell |
| 2. Borden County | 4. Meadow |
| | 5. Wellman-Union |

returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 14-1 state finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Isaak Soliz (6-2, 160, 4.9), RB/LB Jaxon Hodge (6-0, 170, 4.9), OL/LB Cesar Chavez (6-3, 165, 4.9), OL/DL Axel Rivera (6-0, 200, 4.9), RB/LB Luke Gresham (5-10, 150, 4.9), RB/LB Jose Flores (5-8, 155, 4.9).

Other prospects: RB/DL Cash Crutcher, QB/LB Victor Borunda.

2025 notes: After making it to Arlington last year, the Antelopes were hit hard by graduation in the backfield. Linman loves the fact that recent success has fueled a hunger to win, and the team has worked hard in the weight room during the offseason to be more physical.

RANKIN RED DEVILS (78)

Coach: Garret Avalos. Lettermen R/L: 6/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jairo Cruz (5-6, 130, 4.6), QB/LB Gage Lopez (5-9, 155, 4.9), OL/DL Issac Armendarez (6-0, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Lathin Langley (5-11, 200, 4.9), FB/LB Matthew Ramos (5-10, 150, 4.8), RB/DB Kayin Hanna (5-8, 140, 4.7).

2025 notes: A state champion in track, RB Cruz is lightning quick and an explosive player on offense entering his third year as a starter. QB/LB Lopez, another three-year starter, is a player that Avalos is counting on for his leadership skills.

District 4-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Brody Walts, Garden City

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Caden Valdez, Buena Vista

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Imperial Buena Vista | 3. Garden City |
| 2. Rankin | 4. Lenoreah Grady |
| | 5. Marfa |

TURKEY VALLEY PATRIOTS (67)

Coach: Crockett Gillmore. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Damian Valdes (5-9, 180, 4.9), ATH Carson Tucker (5-9, 160, 4.9), ATH Cole Walden (5-10, 150, 4.8).

2025 notes: After seeing limited action last year, ATH Valdes is expected to take on a bigger role on offense as a junior while being someone the Patriots count on to lead the defense, as well. ATH Tucker flies all over the field and is a ballhawk in the secondary.

District 5-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Josh Ortiz, Spur

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Damian Valdes, Turkey Valley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Spur | 3. Petersburg |
| 2. Turkey Valley | 4. Lorenzo |
| | 5. Silverton |

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BRYSON COWBOYS (68)

Coach: Kevin Ray. Lettermen R/L: 6/3. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: C/DE Ben Bennett (6-2, 320), RB/DB Wiatt Newton (5-10, 150), RB/DE Drew Epperson (5-10, 160), QB/DB Kevin Martin (5-8, 160), QB/DB Bryce Thorne, RB/DB Canton Scobee, RB/LB Canyon Scobee, E/E Tyler Isbell.

2025 notes: With two speedy players, the Cowboys will need a young group of newcomers to mature quickly. Among the freshmen that may see extensive action this year is QB/DB Thorne.

KNOX CITY GREYHOUNDS (68)

Coach: Caleb Callaway. Lettermen R/L: 9/11. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Zander Abila (5-8, 170), QB Izaiah Trevino (5-9, 130), OL/DE Chase Rowland (5-10, 180), WR/DB Hunter Lerma (5-8, 130), RB/DB Bently Stroud (5-8, 135), C/DL Joel Contreras (5-8, 195).

2025 notes: RB Abila is a talented player who is transitioning to a new role in 2025 and will have to adjust to both a new role and group around him as he's the only returning starter for the Greyhounds.

NEWCASTLE BOBCATS (77)

Coach: Isiah Archer. Lettermen R/L: 11/4. Starters

returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: SB London Martinez (5-8, 150), RB/LB Mikey Soito (5-10, 170), FB/LB Tristan Clemons (6-0, 190), QB/DB Keyton Newland (5-10, 170), TE/DE Jacob Omundi (6-4, 190), E/E Rylan Hinojosa (5-8, 160), OL/DL Cooper Clayton (6-3, 170), ATH Keegen Voyles (5-11, 150), TE/DE Ryder Ebert (5-9, 145), OL Jayden Hemby, OL Trey Burk.

2025 notes: With nearly everyone back this year, Archer has high hopes for SB Martinez, RB/LB Soito and FB/LB Clemons to have monster senior years. Newcastle is looking forward to QB/DB Newland taking the reins of the offense.

NORTHSIDE INDIANS (69)

Coach: Derek Schlieve. Lettermen R/L: 10/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Camdyn Schlieve (6-0, 200), SB Bryson Fry (5-7, 140), DE Kade Marsh (5-8, 150), OL Brodie Heath (6-0, 190), RB Rance Teague (5-7, 140), OL Carson Lee (5-10, 180), WR Jesse Carrington (6-1, 155), OL Daniel Avitia (5-9, 185), QB Colt Ford (5-8, 130), DB Xavier Schlieve.

2025 notes: The Indians are expecting to field a young roster this year, but Schlieve thinks they will improve weekly and could benefit from a deep roster. QB Schlieve, a senior, was an all-district selection in 11-man last fall and should enjoy the wide-open fields he's going to see in Class 1A.

White (5-9), RB/DE Cash Miller (5-7, 140), WR/DB Hudson Luft (5-10, 150), WR/LB Blake Williamson, DB Jerich Olvera.

2025 notes: As Wall takes over the team, he's not going to have to reinvent the wheel. The Bulldogs have numerous all-district selections back, with RB Cox set to take on most of the offensive responsibility. C/DE Tyler is the team leader and will be heavily involved on both sides of the ball.

ROBY LIONS (82)

Coach: Zane Graves. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 4-6/1-4 district.

Players to watch: SB Cohen Lakey (6-0, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Kullen Daniel (6-2, 165, 4.9), RB/LB Gabriel Cervany (5-10, 185, 4.9), QB/LB Brycen Cole (5-8, 165, 5.2), C/DL David Adkisson (6-1, 220, 5.3), DL Kaden Waldon (5-7, 170, 4.9), WR/DB Kameron Blassingame (6-4, 190, 5.1), RB/LB Camden Carrion (5-9, 145, 4.9), ATH James Covington.

2025 notes: SB Lakey is developing into a trusted leader and someone Graves has expectations of a big year. WR/DB Daniel is coming off a breakout sophomore campaign and has turned into a two-way impact player. RB/LB Cervany is the offensive workhorse that will take pressure off QB/LB Cole.

ROTAN YELLOWHAMMERS (66)

Coach: Julian Menchaca. Lettermen R/L: 5/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Cristian Garcia (5-8, 170), RB Rhylon Lester (5-7, 180), RB Tayden Yanez (5-6, 170), QB Paxton Carrillo (5-10, 150), DL Jason Daniel (6-0, 160).

2025 notes: Menchaca inherits a squad that's nearly fully intact from last year and thinks the Yellowhammers will be about the same as they were in

District 6-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

SB London Martinez, Newcastle

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Cole Keeney, Perrin-Whitt

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Newcastle
2. Perrin-Whitt
3. Knox City
4. Bryson
5. Vernon Northside

PERRIN-WHITT PIRATES (103)

Coach: Kevin Loyd. Lettermen R/L: 8/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 7-3/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Cole Keeney (6-0, 175), C/DL Joseph Welch (6-1, 235), OL/DL Travis Welch (6-1, 235), OL/DL Dillon Carter (5-10, 225), RB/LB Nate Scruggs (5-10, 160), RB/DB Noah Morris (5-9, 150), QB Riley Sims (5-9, 140), RB/DB Julian Ramos.

2025 notes: The Pirates have very few holes to fill and plenty of returning talent. That combination should have them competing for a playoff berth. ATH Keeney and QB Sims are a dynamic pairing in the backfield while C/DL Welch is a dual threat blocking and receiving.

2024. Rotan lacks size outside of DL Daniel and will look to find any advantage possible on the field.

WESTBROOK WILDCATS (91)

Coach: Homer Matlock. Lettermen R/L: 8/7. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 10-3 region finalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Chance Morris (5-10, 140), RB/DB Landon Rodriguez (5-9, 145), C Brett Rich (6-0, 260), E/E Shawn Salazar (6-0, 180), RB/LB Caiden Terry (6-0, 145), E/E Ryder White (5-10, 180), E/DB Caleb Browne.

2025 notes: After a dominant four-year run, the Wildcats enter this year with more questions than answers. Matlock says that a lack of depth and experience can be offset by Westbrook's culture and tradition. Westbrook will need the four new starters on each side of the ball to adapt and grow quickly.

District 7-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Chance Morris, Westbrook

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Justin Smith, Hermleigh

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Westbrook
2. Hermleigh
3. Ira
4. Roscoe Highland
5. Roby
6. Rotan

HERMLEIGH CARDINALS (77)

Coach: Sammy Winters. Lettermen R/L: 12/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 7-3/3-2 district.

Players to watch: DL Justin Smith (6-0, 220), WR Zaylan Delce (6-1, 165), LB Hayden Simpson (5-9, 165), LB Markius McClure (5-10, 175), DE Rance McBroom (6-2, 170). Top junior: ATH Aaron Olvera (5-9, 190).

2025 notes: The Cardinals will be getting numerous familiar faces settled into new roles as the season gets underway, but they should be in the mix for a playoff berth when the season ends. Hermleigh will have speed in WR Delce on offense while the defense will rely on DL Smith and LBs Simpson and McClure.

HIGHLAND HORNETS (65)

Coach: Bryson Oliver. Lettermen R/L: 12/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 4-6/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Colby Sanders, TE/LB Zechariah Stuber, C/DL Hayden Blackwell, SB/DB Ryher Glass, WR/LB Jaxton Fullwood, C/DL Clavin Magee, TE/DL Brayden Crain, RB/DE Nolan Blackwell.

2025 notes: The Hornets are expected to funnel their offense through junior SB/DB Glass as he has significant experience in leading the charge. A trio of seniors (RB/DE Sanders, TE/LB Stuber and C/DL Blackwell) will help take the pressure off Glass and could have the Hornets in a position to make this year interesting.

IRA BULLDOGS (68)

Coach: Jess Wall. Lettermen R/L: 6/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Brandt Cox (5-10, 165), C/DE Landon Tyler (6-0, 200), RB/DB Zaden Pena, E/DE Jaxon

2024 TSMCA DIVISION I ALL-STATE TEAM

COACH OF THE YEAR: Mike Reed, Gordon

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: Stryker Reed, Gordon

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: TC Hennig, Aquilla

OFFENSIVE MVP: Ry Reed, Gordon

DEFENSIVE MVP: Brayden Walters, Gordon

First-Team Offense

QB Noah Kositha, Gordon
RB Ethan Kauffman, Whiteface
RB Riley Sustala, Abbott
FB Jeren Pena, Ira
SB Braden Steele, Borden County
UTIL Grayson Jeffrey, Westbrook
WR Cesar Chavez, Whiteface
WR Nate Samaniego, Robert Lee
OL Axel Rivera, Whiteface
OL Evan Jackson, Gordon
TC Juan Cabrera, Gordon
SC John Cross Utley, Knox City
K Dash Davis, Rankin
ST Aiden Shank, Gordon

First-Team Defense

NG Damien Stewart, Westbrook
DL Mason Hicks, Happy
DL Auscar Gandara, Whiteface
DL Anthony Quintana, Water Valley
SR Brylan Naylor, Water Valley
SR Luke Gresham, Whiteface
LB Joey Pavelka, Abbott
LB Boston Weise, Water Valley
CB Jeremiah Rendon, Whiteface
CB Zach Avants, Westbrook
S Tye Stipe, Borden County
S Landon Lacy, Water Valley
UTIL Maddox Stewart, Gordon
P Hayes Bressler, Happy

2024 TSMCA DIVISION II ALL-STATE TEAM

COACH OF THE YEAR: Josh Stanaland & Jayton Staff

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: Bode Ham, Jayton

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: Culley Lawrence, Motley County

OFFENSIVE MVP: Sean Stanaland, Jayton

DEFENSIVE MVP: Colt Gentry, Jayton

First-Team Offense

QB Dayden Velasquez, Oakwood
RB Kyler Fossett, Oglesby
RB Keegan Hayes, Benjamin
FB Gavin Wilbanks, Oakwood
SB Jared Quintanilla, Klondike
UTIL Cole Heutzenroeder, Iredell
WR Luke Smith, Klondike
WR Slay Bowley, Klondike
OL Griff Reel, Jayton
OL Dayton Bleiker, Jayton
TC Nick Stickland, Oakwood
SC Hunter Ewing, Oglesby
K Isael Rodriguez, Klondike
ST Cohen Ethridge, Richland Springs

First-Team Defense

NG Jack Hendricks, Oglesby
DL Ayden Salazar, Jayton
DL Canin Addison, Klondike
DL Caleb Garland, Iredell
SR Cannon McGee, Klondike
SR Billy Perry, Richland Springs
LB Tallon Hayes, Benjamin
LB David Meeks, Follett
CB Lorenzo Vargas, Jayton
CB Michael Reed, Oakwood
S Jordan Gutierrez, Iredell
S Hutton Rodgers, Richland Springs
UTIL Darreion Thomas, Oakwood
P Jack Griffin, Whitharal

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

IRION COUNTY HORNETS (87)

Coach: Tell Rutledge. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-6/2-2 district. Players to watch: RB/DE Hagen Turman (6-0, 175, 4.8), TE/DE Maison Siller (6-4, 200, 4.9), TE/LB Kyle Olivian (5-8, 155, 5.0), QB/DB Luke Seahorn (5-7, 145, 4.9), FB/LB Gatlin Carlile (5-10, 150, 5.0), C/DE Aaron Hamilton.

2025 notes: After playing one of the toughest schedules in the state in 2024, the Hornets will look to use that experience to be successful this fall. RB/DE Turman and TE/DE Siller give the Hornets some size while QB/DB Seahorn brings speed to the field.

PAINT ROCK INDIANS (62)

Coach: David McAbee. Lettermen R/L: 15/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 0-9/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Angel Briones (5-10, 163, 4.6), SB/DB Ezra Ruiz (5-10, 140, 4.6), C Arnulfo Campos (5-8, 230, 5.0), OL/DE Waylon Carpenter (6-0, 250, 5.0), OL/DE Caleb Taylor (6-3, 270, 5.0), RB Elijah "E-Rod" Rodriguez (5-5, 147, 4.4), DE Johnny Reyes (5-6, 200, 4.6), QB/LB Jayden Oliver (5-10, 160, 4.6), OL Kian Francis (6-0, 185, 5.0), C/DE Slayton Carpenter, OL Shawn Halfman, ATH Ryan Wallace, OL/RB Ismael Altamirano, OL/DE Duncan Dowd, RB/DB Kaedyn Gunn, QB/LB Jaeden Jackson, RB/DE Trystian Walston.

2025 notes: McAbee takes over a squad that went winless last year but returns the vast majority of the roster that projects to have 20 players on it this year.

ROBERT LEE STEERS (80)

Coach: Lee McCown. Lettermen R/L: 10/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB Brenner Sherwood (6-1, 165, 4.8), WR Nate Samaniego (5-7, 120, 4.9), LB Edward Samaniego (5-7, 165, 4.9), TE/DL Wyatt Bosworth (6-1, 180, 4.9), C Brennen Hood (6-0, 255, 5.5), WR Noah Gonzales (5-6, 130, 4.8), RB/DB Josh Garcez (5-6, 150, 4.8), LB Justice Immel (6-1, 185, 5.2), WR/DL Levi Bailey, OL/DL Eli Bradshaw.

2025 notes: As someone who can see the field very well, SB/DB Sherwood is tough to contain with an ability to both run and throw. WR Samaniego scored on nearly half his receptions as a junior and McCown says he "has the natural ability to get open and (has) great hands."

VERIBEST FALCONS (85)

Coach: Justin Morris. Lettermen R/L: 5/7. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 6-4/1-3 district.

Players to watch: UTIL Lorenzo Hight (5-8, 145), RB/LB Zander Colon (5-8, 150), OL/DL Matthew Mata (5-10, 225), OL/DL Brayson Walker (5-10, 200), DL Javi Munoz (5-7, 240).

2025 notes: In what is a catch-22 situation, the Falcons offensive line will be bigger this year than it has been in past seasons, but they will have to pave the way for a new group of skill position players.

District 8-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

SB Brenner Sherwood, Robert Lee

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Boston Wiese, Water Valley

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Water Valley | 3. Veribest |
| 2. Robert Lee | 4. Irion County |
| | 5. Paint Rock |

WATER VALLEY WILDCATS (93)

Coach: Trey Sisco. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 11-3 state semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Boston Wiese (5-9, 175), QB/DB Landon Lacy (6-2, 175), RB/DL Brylan Naylor (5-8, 155), OL/DL Hayden Kolster (6-2, 170), OL/LB Marcus Rodriguez (6-0, 150), OL/DL Cade Manley (5-8, 195), ATH Branson Lacy (6-1, 170), OL/DL Cutter Lange (6-1, 200), ATH Hudson Wiese (5-5, 130), OL/DL Josiah Martinez, ATH Cole Baker.

2025 notes: Water Valley is poised to make another deep playoff run with the return of RB/LB Wiese (198 tackles; 21 total TDs) and QB/DB Lacy (60 total TDs) to a potent offense. RB/DL Naylor is a dominant force on defense while OL/DL Kolster anchors the line play.

Class 1A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

1A DIVISION I

Gordon

Gordon spent halftime planning its game-winning touchdown celebration — just one score away from its 12th 45-point mercy-rule victory of the season. On the first play of the third quarter, quarterback Stryker Reed scrambled for a 45-yard touchdown, sealing a 70-24 win over Whiteface in the Class 1A Division I state championship.

The entire team rushed the field, gathered beside Reed, and posed with arms crossed and heads tilted — a planned celebration that symbolized how different this title felt from their 2023 championship. Last year, they were the underdog. This time, they wore the target.

"We thrive taking the villain role, making it fun," said Defensive MVP Ry Reed. "Just trying to do what everyone wants us not to do."

Everything had gone according to plan. Well, almost.

"I'm going to be honest; I made the wrong read," Stryker admitted.

It was one of Gordon's few missteps

— all afternoon and all season. The Longhorns scored nine touchdowns on just 17 plays. Stryker was named Offensive MVP, completing 2-of-4 passes for 86 yards and two touchdowns and rushing for 91 yards and two more. Ry Reed (no relation) added 99 yards and three scores on just five carries. Receiver Brayden Walters caught three passes for 92 yards and three touchdowns.

"Don't use bathroom breaks," Stryker joked. "Don't go to the concession stand unless it's halftime."

Defensive coordinator Ligon West's unit allowed just 7.2 points per game this season — the best mark in UIL six-man history. Head coach Mike Reed (Stryker's father) credited three scout team players who mimicked Whiteface star Ethan Kauffman, helping the defense hold him to just 67 rushing yards.

"They're the best team I've ever coached," Reed said. "And every kid I've coached will holler at me — but yes, we would've beaten them."



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — Coming off their dominant state championship, the Longhorns started No. 1 in *Texas Football's* preseason 1A Division I rankings.

TURNING POINT — Once Gordon dominated Strawn with a mercy-rule win in Week 3, it looked like nobody would come close to the Longhorns.

TEAM MVP — Stryker Reed, who earned Player of the Year honors in an electrifying junior season.

BY THE NUMBERS — **20:15:** The Longhorns only played 20 minutes and 15 seconds of second halves during their perfect season, including only one fourth quarter, in their state semifinal win over Abbott.

CLASS 1A DIVISION I PLAYOFF RESULTS

BI-DISTRICT: Region I: Booker 62, Springlake-Earth 30; Whiteface 85, Rankin 60; Borden County 55, Imperial Buena Vista 46; Happy 60, Wildorado 14. Region II: Newcastle 74, Spur 22; Westbrook 116, Robert Lee 110; Water Valley 64, Ira 32; Knox City 64, Turkey Valley 52. Region III: Saint Jo 92, Avalon 67; Abbott 64, Chester 14; Aquilla 60, Burkeville 6; Gilmer Union Hill 68, Milford 22. Region IV: Gordon 56, May 8; Menard 54, Benavides 7; Medina 48, Prairie Lea 0; Jonesboro 64, Baird 16. AREA: Region I: Borden County 52, Happy 38; Whiteface 66, Booker 16. Region II: Water Valley 56, Knox City 0; Westbrook 98, Newcastle 52. Region III: Abbott 70, Saint Jo 24; Aquilla 69, Gilmer Union Hill 39. Region IV: Gordon 48, Menard 0; Jonesboro 70, Medina 20. REGIONAL FINALS: Region I: Whiteface 82, Borden County 36. Region II: Water Valley 70, Westbrook 38. Region III: Abbott 52, Aquilla 8. Region IV: Gordon 56, Jonesboro 6. STATE SEMIFINALS: Gordon 77, Abbott 36; Whiteface 74, Water Valley 54. STATE FINAL: Gordon 70, Whiteface 24.

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL
Dave Campbell's

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

AVALON EAGLES (100)

Coach: Malcolm Cole. Lettermen R/L: 16/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 10-1 bi-district finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Josh Novak (6-1, 180, 4.7), QB/DB Cade Johnson (5-11, 170, 4.8), OL/DL Evan Jacks (6-3, 185, 5.0), WR Payton Scott (6-1, 160, 5.0), E/DL Chase Blalock (5-11, 180), RB/DL Cruz Palacios (6-0, 260), OL/DL Lucas Rogers (5-10, 175), RB/LB Levi Olvera (5-8, 160, 4.0), QB John De La Garza.

2025 notes: OL/DL Jacks brings physicality to the trenches for the Eagles and paves the way for RB Novak (2,151 yards, 41 TDs rushing), who serves as the offensive leader for Cole's squad.

BLUM BOBCATS (96)

Coach: Cooper Thornhill. Lettermen R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-5/2-2 district.

Player to watch: OL Gunner Willingham (6-2, 150, 4.7).
2025 notes: The Bobcats think they could see a drastic improvement in their record this year and plan to exploit their speed advantage on the field.

COVINGTON OWLS (87)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Josh Rives, TE/DL Ivan Mendez, QB/LB Ty Johnson, RB/DB Gaven Burt, C/DE

Trevon Duron, TE/DL Jackson Stokes, TE/LB Braden Clinkscapes, WR/LB Joseph Vierra, RB/LB Colton Nickell.

Other prospects: RB/DB Nathan Duron, TE/DE David Aguilar, TE/DE Brendin Stokes, WR/DE Cameron Herring, RB/LB Dylan Benton, TE/DE Austin Pearson.

2025 notes: With new leadership atop the program, the Owls are poised for success with a quartet of seniors leading the way. RB/LB Rives and TE/DL Mendez provide sure handed targets for QB/LB Johnson on offense.

MILFORD BULLDOGS (86)

Coach: Jose Cervantes. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB Swish Washington (6-0, 185, 4.6), TE/LB Ayden Martinez (6-0, 240, 4.8), FB/DT Easton Evans (6-0, 197, 4.8), C/DE Jaxon Fuentes (5-9, 4.9), OL/LB Ian McGinnis (5-10, 4.7), RB/DE Garrett Johnson (6-1, 205, 4.6). Top junior: RB Ja'Koi Brager (6-0, 275, 4.7), OL/DE Lucas Geisel (6-2, 210, 4.7).

Other prospects: FB/LB Esteban Salas, ATH Easton Gray, OL/DT Blue Singelton, FB/DE Ayden Hayes, QB/DB JJ Ervin, OL/DT De'Mundrick Rankin, FB/LB Gearald Boy, RB/DE Billy Dorty.

2025 notes: Cervantes is excited about what this year brings as he has all of his starters back from a playoff team and they have the size to be able to

SAINT JO PANTHERS (100.5)

Coach: CJ Hantz. Lettermen R/L: 4/7. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Lee Yeley (6-0, 170), TE/LB Amzy Barclay (5-7, 220), C/LB Sam Martin (5-10, 165), FB/DE Rylan Forrester (5-10, 225).

Other prospects: QB/DB Colton Curry, DE Zack Nunneley, DB Noah Sharp.

2025 notes: RB/LB Yeley (124 tackles) was named the district's defensive MVP as a junior and is poised to have a bigger campaign this season. Hantz sees him as a critical part of Saint Jo's squad alongside TE/LB Barclay. Barclay is expected to be a big part of the Panthers' passing attack.

SAVOY CARDINALS (73)

Coach: Aaron Stiefer. Lettermen R/L: 7/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/1-3 district.

Player to watch: WR Rawlee Gibson.

2025 notes: With most of last year's squad returning, the Cardinals are in good shape to take a step forward this fall. WR Gibson impressed as a junior and will be counted on to lead the team this year.

UNION HILL BULLDOGS (96)

Coach: Josh Bragdon. Lettermen R/L: 11/2.

2025 notes: The Cougars are loaded with seniors and have depth at key positions with chemistry in the backfield. ATH Hennig (2,321 total yards, 37 TDs) is a budding superstar that will benefit from the experience around him.

COOLIDGE YELLOW JACKETS (79)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Devonta Johnson (6-0, 177), ATH Jacoby Brown (6-3, 170), QB/DB Jakobe Brown (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: ATH Johnson is a workhorse on offense that can beat teams in a variety of ways and will benefit from the growth shown during the offseason by QB/DB Brown. ATH Brown will use his size as an advantage and has a nose for the ball as a defensive leader.

GHOLSON WILDCATS (86)

Coach: Roy Smith. Lettermen R/L: 5/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: DB Aaron Salinas, QB Lane Kunkel, RB Kingston Nowlin.

2025 notes: There's good experience coming back for the Wildcats, who are looking to shake off last year's disappointment. Senior DB Salinas provides veteran leadership while QB Kunkel and RB Nowlin will bring youth to the squad.

District 9-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Josh Novak, Avalon

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Swish Washington, Milford

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| 1. Avalon | 3. Blum |
| 2. Milford | 4. Covington |
| | 5. Walnut Springs |

control the line of scrimmage.

WALNUT SPRINGS HORNETS (62)

Coach: Richard Dye. Lettermen R/L: 1/11. Starters returning O/D: 0/0. 2024: 3-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/RB Matthew Rabago (6-0, 180), RB Harvey Shuemake (6-0, 160), K/LB Diego Sanchez (5-10, 220), LB Geary Jimenez (5-11, 230).

2025 notes: This year is going to be all about rebuilding for the Hornets as they graduated all but one player from last year's roster and have a bunch of unproven players stepping onto the field this season.

Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-3 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB EJ Mowery (6-2, 160, 4.8), C/DT Mitch Mobley (6-0, 240, 4.7), FB/DB Payton Dunn (6-1, 140, 4.7), TE/LB Jacob Brewster (5-10, 185, 4.9), QB/DB Harlee Burns (5-4, 125, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Bulldogs have plenty of returning talent, but Bragdon is planning to experiment with putting familiar faces in new places in the early part of the season. How well players can adapt to their new roles will be a defining characteristic of the season, but Union Hill will be competitive all year long.

District 10-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

SB EJ Mowery, Union Hill

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Lee Yeley, Saint Jo

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Gilmer Union Hill | 3. Leverett's Chapel |
| 2. Saint Jo | 4. Savoy |
| | 5. Campbell |

CAMPBELL INDIANS (76)

Coach: Preston Compton. Lettermen R/L: 15/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Drake Sweeney (5-11, 170), SB/DB Manny Knox (5-8, 145), SB/DB Jayden Barker (5-11, 165), SB/DB Matthew Sweeney (6-0, 175), RB/LB Kip King (6-1, 185), SB/DB Gage Mitchell (6-0, 170), OL/DL Daunte Jordan (5-10, 210), LB Fey Padilla (5-10, 170), DL Blake Manning (6-1, 190), RB/LB Gunner Mitchell.

2025 notes: The Indians enter their third year under Compton poised to have a massive breakthrough with almost their entire team back from last year. Compton expects to have his team, which will mostly be underclassmen with a strong freshman class, competing for a playoff berth.

LEVERETT'S CHAPEL LIONS (67)

Coach: Keith Hughes. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

2025 notes: In a tough district, Hughes knows that his squad will have its work cut out for it to compete for a playoff berth. The Lions will be a lot younger than they were a year ago, but Hughes thinks they have a better grasp of the team's schemes while getting stronger and more powerful up front.

ABBOTT PANTHERS (76)

Coach: Kyle Crawford. Lettermen R/L: 16/8. Starters returning O/D: 0/2. 2024: 13-1 states semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: DE Jaxon Matula (6-1, 175), C/DE Eli Willie (6-5, 200), WR/DB Micah Hejl (5-10, 170), FB/LB Lane Hejl (5-11, 160), RB/DB Jonathon Wood (5-10, 165), QB/DB Leighthen Galvan (5-10, 150), RB/DB Bryer Haynes (5-10, 155), RB/DE Derek Neill (6-0, 175), RB/DB Quintin Kaska (5-9, 155), RB/DB Trayse Segura, TE/DB Landon Stevens, TE/LB Latham Machac.

2025 notes: The Panthers will have to reload with a talented class of sophomores and juniors this year after losing nearly every starter from last year. Crawford says that the young faces are eager to step up and fill the holes for the youthful team.

AQUILLA COUGARS (98)

Coach: Shannon Williams. Lettermen R/L: 13/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 11-2 regional finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH TC Hennig (5-10, 165), RB Andrew Snipes (5-10, 180), QB Ryan Hill (5-10, 165), K Brodey Woodward (5-8, 150), LB Zane Booth (5-10, 160), DE Mason Cockrell (5-9, 165), OL Connor Dunlap (5-10, 170), ATH Brodey Woodward (5-9, 150).

Other prospects: LB Collyn Wilhite, LB Barrett Rains, TE Cross Blevins, DE Austin Hines, RB Rayce Yrios, DE Brice Earl, RB Zeph Minyard, DB Aiden Allred.

PENELOPE WOLVERINES (66)

Coach: Chris Villarreal. Lettermen R/L: 4/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Pierce Esparza (5-8, 150, 4.7), E/E Abram High (5-10, 215, 5.1), QB/LB Landyn Atkins (5-9, 135, 4.8), RB/LB Kane Taylor (5-11, 145, 4.7).

2025 notes: After losing a strong senior class, Villarreal is excited about what he has returning this year thanks to RB/LB Esparza's return, who should control games. Esparza is quick and shifty and can make defenders regularly miss tackles.

District 11-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH TC Hennig, Aquilla

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Jaxon Matula, Abbott

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. Aquilla | 3. Coolidge |
| 2. Abbott | 4. Penelope |
| | 5. Gholson |

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

APPLE SPRINGS EAGLES (65)

Coach: Cody Moree. Lettermen R/L: 9/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Bradyn Kaufman (6-3, 233, 4.8), WR/DB Peyton Williams (5-9, 139, 5.0), C Ethan LeBlanc (5-10, 153, 5.3), LB Rance Howell (5-11, 163, 5.0), WR/LB Kayden Roden (5-11, 152, 4.9), ATH Reagan Davis (5-10, 152, 5.0), WR Joseph Ocasiones (5-6, 129, 4.8).

Other prospect: DE Blaize McSwain.

2025 notes: Despite a lack of depth, the Eagles are poised to have a big year because of explosive playmakers on offense, led by WR/DB Williams. RB/LB Kaufman (119 tackles) has speed out of the backfield, but it's his ability to find the ball on defense that can make a difference.

BURKEVILLE MUSTANGS (78)

Coach: Aaron Hallford. Lettermen R/L: 11/7. Starters returning O/D: 0/2. 2024: 7-3 bi-district finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Byron Johnson (5-10, 180), DB Jay'vuan Spearman (5-9, 160), ATH DeJuan Cheatham (5-10, 210), QB Ja'Derrick Ballard (5-8, 150), RB Ira Waddy (5-8, 150), ATH Logan Brooks (6-1, 180), ATH Austen Trammell (5-10, 180), ATH Marlon Jackson (6-0, 215), RB Jamari Hickman (5-8, 150).

Other prospects: WR Bobby Masura, WR Kort

BAIRD BEARS (92)

Coach: Jeremy Kirk. Lettermen R/L: 15/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL PJ Luper (6-2, 240), RB/DE Dugan Clemmons (5-9, 165), E/DE Levi Neinst (6-0, 180), E/DE Tristan Wooten (6-5, 190), QB/DB Kendall Miller (5-8, 150), RB AJ Wheeler (5-5, 140).

2025 notes: New coach Kirk takes over a team with the entire offensive and defensive lines returning, but must find new players to fill the backfield. RB/DE Clemmons and QB/DB Miller are expected to be the primary guys in the new roles and will determine how much success Baird has.

GORDON LONGHORNS (75)

Coach: Mike Reed. Lettermen R/L: 15/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 15-0 state champion/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Stryker Reed (6-1, 195, 4.4), ATH Ry Reed (5-10, 185, 4.4), WR Brayden Walters (6-1, 190, 4.5), QB Noah Kostina (5-10, 170, 4.8), LB Kaden Crowe (5-8, 160, 4.6), ATH Aiden Shank (5-10, 170, 4.7), LB Hudson Campbell (5-10, 165, 4.7), DE Eric James, DE Rowe Williams, C/DL Evan Jackson, RB Tristan Ross, C/DL Corvin Seymour.

2025 notes: A preseason favorite for a three-peat, the Longhorns are counting on another big season from RBs Stryker Reed and Ry Reed, and WR Walters. Gordon gave up the fewest points per game ever by a state champion last year; they could be even better.

JONESBORO EAGLES (94)

Coach: Eddie Gallegos. Lettermen R/L: 2/11. Starters returning O/D: 0/1. 2024: 10-2 region finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Sam Lawrence (5-9, 180, 4.8), ATH Will Featherston (5-7, 145, 4.7), QB Paden Martin (5-10, 170), RB/DE Damon Moore (5-10, 165, 4.7), E/DB Colton Robertson (5-10, 145), TE/DB Sydney Smith (6-1, 180), RB/DB Camdyn Christel (5-10, 185), C/DL Preston Seager (5-8, 190).

Other prospect: TE/DL Braxton Dossey.

2025 notes: After several years of being in a complementary role, RB Lawrence will be the featured back for the Eagles this year. Most of the offense will run through him and he will need ATH Featherston and RB/DE Moore to develop into reliable options to make the offense more dynamic.

LOMETA HORNETS (93)

Coach: D.T. Torres. Lettermen R/L: 5/7. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-3/1-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jeremiah Torres (5-8, 150), OL/DL Emmanuel Prado (5-8, 225), RB/LB Stone Carr-Jones (6-1, 175), OL/DL Roy Carr (5-10, 200), RB/LB Pablo Carbajal (5-8, 150), RB/LB Easton Hamilton (5-9, 155), RB/LB Carson Brister (6-0, 150).

2025 notes: Lometa is set up to have a good year

Metts, OL Justin Davis, LB Justin Wood, DB Antonio Jackson, DE Jody Murray.

2025 notes: The Mustangs lost a lot of starters to graduation, but have plenty of returning talent on their roster, led by LB Johnson. The senior was named the district's defensive player of the year in 2024 and will need to have a monster year to help Burkeville return to the playoffs.

CHESTER YELLOW JACKETS (73)

Coach: Coleman Butter. Lettermen R/L: 14/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 4-5 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Jaxon Gay (5-9, 185), TE/DL Kasen Citrano (6-2, 215), RB/LB Jesse Bittick (5-10, 195), QB/DB Turner Johnson (5-8, 150), OL/DL Rex Gilzow (5-10, 210), OL/LB Jayse Gay (5-8, 160).

Other prospects: ATH Graysen Rosencranz, RB/DB Ethan Gray, WR/DB Bryson Swanson, OL/DL Blake Zulpo.

2025 notes: A pair of seniors, RB/DB Gay and OL/DL Gilzow, are set to lead the way with a ton of talented juniors waiting in the wings to showcase their capabilities. RB/LB Bittick (1,306 yards, 22 TDs rushing) displayed his capabilities as a sophomore and will be a featured player in Chester's offense.

HIGH ISLAND CARDINALS (67)

Coach: Brandon King. Lettermen R/L: N/A.

GORMAN PANTHERS (88)

Coach: Brady Hibbits. Lettermen R/L: 7/6. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 4-6/2-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Tristan Lee (5-7, 125, 4.6), TE Garrett Teague (6-0, 185, 4.8), RB Scott Everhart (6-0, 170, 4.6), DB Tyce Delgado (5-7, 125, 4.8), C Collin Brown (6-3, 220, 4.9), RB Ethan Jones (5-7, 160, 4.8), QB Fabian Rencendez (6-0, 150, 4.7), QB Justin Brown (6-0, 150, 4.7), OL Hayden Clark, RB Kelby Wycoff, DB Kellan Scitern, RB Audie Seag, DB Carson Johnson.

2025 notes: Hibbits enters his first year at Gordon with a squad that's lost a lot of production but has the talent ready to step into pivotal roles. DB Lee (65 tackles) also serves as the squad's kicker and his play is going to be crucial to the Panthers' success.

LINGLEVILLE CARDINALS (79)

Coach: Jim Bays. Lettermen R/L: 2/8. Starters returning O/D: 2/1. 2024: 2-6/1-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Simon Dominguez, DB Klayson Guajardo, TE/DE Hudson Guajardo, OL Brody Hurt, RB Elias Tovar.

2025 notes: This year will be all about rebuilding for the Cardinals after losing eight lettermen from last year. Those losses have Bays looking at different offensive and defensive styles as he looks to find what best suits the players he will have lining up this year.

despite the large number of losses to graduation as a strong group of underclassmen saw extensive playing time in 2024, led by QB/DB Torres and OL/DL Prado. RB/LB Carr-Jones is an imposing threat in the backfield who Torres can lean on.

MAY TIGERS (96)

Coach: James Ball. Lettermen R/L: 8/4. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Kobey Morris (6-3, 180, 4.6), DB Lane Goodson (5-10, 170, 4.8), ATH Jackson Lusk (5-9, 170, 4.7), WR Brody Stice (6-1, 150, 4.9), C Kaden Watkins (6-1, 190, 4.9), QB Cayson Dail (5-7, 150, 4.9), RB Tyran Perry (6-1, 150, 4.8).

2025 notes: RB Morris will play crucial roles on offense and defense this year while CB Goodson is constantly looking to deliver hard hits. QB Dail is someone that Ball is expecting to have a breakout season among a deep group of talented seniors.

SANTA ANNA MOUNTAINEERS (70)

Coach: Jose Luna. Lettermen R/L: 9/7. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 3-7/0-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Brock Brown (5-6, 148), WR/DB Jeremiah Davila (6-1, 150), RB/DE Jayden Gibson (5-7, 146), C/DT Jordan Diggs (6-0, 178). Top

District 12-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jaxon Gay, Chester

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Byron Johnson, Burkeville

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Chester | 3. Apple Springs |
| 2. Burkeville | 4. High Island |

Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 1-8/0-3 district.

Players to watch: SB Kwame Medina, WR Kaden Campbell, QB/WR Cash Gumpert, C/FB Leif Larson, C/LB Chuck Randall. Top junior: FB/DE Kyler McKinney, ATH Hunter Gray.

Other prospects: SB/WR Allen Yap, LB Jett Kennedy, C/DT JJ Botello.

2025 notes: As King embarks on his second year as a head coach, he has a squad that will feature a trio of sophomores in pivotal roles: SB Medina, QB/WR Gumpert and C/LB Randall. While those three will carry the bulk of the load, C/FB Larson, a senior, brings valuable leadership to the squad.

RANGER BULLDOGS (78)

Coach: Eric Sanchez. Lettermen R/L: 15/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Kaiden Cuellar, WR/RB Jordan Rodriguez, QB/DE Ethan Saucedo, OL/DL Izik Ponce, OL/DL Caden Fischer, RB/LB Rocky Moreno, WR/DB Benjamin Williams, OL/DL Landon Uhlhorn, RB/DL Zayden Robertson, QB/DB Tyler Maddox, OL/DL Smauel Madore.

2025 notes: In order to be competitive this year in district play, Ranger is going to have to stay healthy despite having a deep roster. The Bulldogs are going to be young and will need several players to quickly mature.

District 13-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Stryker Reed, Gordon

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Ry Reed, Gordon

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1. Gordon | 3. Gorman |
| 2. Baird | 4. Ranger |
| | 5. Lingleville |

junior: OL/DL Tony Blaine (5-6, 162), RB/LB Elijah Herrod (5-6, 147).

2025 notes: The Mountaineers enter the year looking to replace most of their offensive and defensive production from a year ago. Santa Anna will field a young team that Luna hopes will be able to grow up and produce quickly while going through some growing pains. The Mountaineers' success will depend on how they handle adversity early on.

District 14-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Kobey Morris, May

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Jeremiah Torres, Lometa

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. May | 3. Lometa |
| 2. Jonesboro | 4. Santa Anna |

DC
TX

TEXAS FOOTBALL

CLASS 1A
HIGH SCHOOL

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

EDEN BULLDOGS (71)

Coach: Jeff Shelton. Lettermen R/L: 11/3. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Blake Teeple (5-10, 165, 4.6), QB/DB Julian Morales (5-9, 160, 4.7), FB/DE Nate Barba (5-8, 180), WR/DB Avery Condarco (6-0, 160), OL/DE Coen Hoelscher (6-2, 210), ATH Gharitt Cogbill, ATH Jorge Mendez, FB/LB Mauro Ponce.

2025 notes: Shelton takes over a squad that returns all but one starter and is poised to be successful thanks to RB/DE Teeple (1,261 total yards, 23 TDs) and QB/DB Morales (1,447 yards, 23 TDs passing).

LEAKEY EAGLES (104)

Coach: Ryan Heard. Lettermen R/L: 10/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-5/1-3 district.

Players to watch: ATH Paul Pintor (6-0, 180, 4.6), TE/DE Aden Rhiver (6-4, 245, 4.9), SB/DB Owen Hankins (5-10, 180, 4.5), RB/LB Yancey Hidalgo (5-9, 165, 4.6), RB/DL Aiden Hernandez (5-7, 140, 4.5), C/DE Chase Rimkus (6-2, 190, 4.9), LB/K Daniel Kotze (6-2, 175, 4.7), QB/DB Mason Boatwright, TE/DE Jacob Hammonds, C/DL Ethan Gray.

2025 notes: ATH Pintor is a ballhawk on defense but earns his living on offense where he's a threat in both the rushing and passing attack. TE/DE Rhiver is an imposing force that is due for a big year after having his junior year cut short by injury.

BENAVIDES EAGLES (73)

Coach: Nathan Jimenez. Lettermen R/L: 7/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 5-6 bi-district finalist/1-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Justin Dominguez (5-8, 175, 4.8), RB/LB Dylan Perez (5-8, 190, 4.9), RB/LB Oscar Cantu (5-8, 195, 4.9), QB/RB Leo Fraga (5-10, 175, 4.8), WR/DB James Martinez (5-9, 140, 4.9), C Josh Vela (5-8, 245, 5.1), DB Aiden Chavera (5-7, 150, 5.0), DB Ayden Torres, RB Andrew Martinez.

2025 notes: The Eagles expect big things this year out of QB Dominguez, RB/LB Perez and RB/LB Cantu. Dominguez excels at the intangibles while Perez is a multisport athlete driven to improve. Cantu doesn't shy away from the football and led Benavides in tackles as a junior.

KNIPPA ROCKCRUSHERS (78)

Coach: David Navarro. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-7/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Jared Gardner (5-8, 165, 4.9), DB Hayes Malloy (5-7, 130, 5.0), QB Cameron Santos (5-9, 160, 4.8), DL Walker Windham (6-3, 220, 5.2). Top junior: RB/LB Joaquin Garcia (5-8, 155, 4.9), LB Luke Adame (5-7, 145, 5.0), C Cash Collins, QB Cole Monk.

2025 notes: The Rockcrushers fielded their first squad in 49 years last fall and are hungry to show why there was great support in the community to restore

MEDINA BOBCATS (73)

Coach: Mark Coley. Lettermen R/L: 16/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Zy'Heme Jones (6-0, 165), QB Davis Peterson (5-8, 135), C Mike Bogorad (6-0, 185), FB Cooper Arnold (5-8, 140), RB Aiden Munsterteiger (5-10, 145), WR Cody Boatman (5-7, 125), TE J.T. Kunz (5-10, 195).

2025 notes: Having made the playoffs in each of the last four seasons, Medina's building a program full of legacies. The Bobcats are going to be junior-heavy this year and will be counting on QB Peterson, WR Jones and FB Arnold to take the next step in their careers.

MENARD YELLOW JACKETS (92)

Coach: Clay Holland. Lettermen R/L: 9/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-2-1 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Jayden Payton (5-11, 170), OL/DL Cado Bannowsky (6-3, 190), C Tate Wagner (6-0, 240), LB Bryce Davis (5-10, 160), E Aidan Ramon (6-5, 260), LB Hunter Squiers (5-8, 150), QB Julius Zamora (5-7, 130), RB/LB Wesley Compton.

2025 notes: RB/DB Payton (1,750 yards, 26 TDs rushing) was the district MVP as a junior and expects to put up bigger numbers this fall. Payton will benefit from a big offensive line, but to be successful in the running game, Menard needs to find a quarterback early on so that it doesn't become one-dimensional.

the program. RB Gardner is quick and shifty while DB Malloy loves to hit and make open field tackles.

PRAIRIE LEA INDIANS (71)

Coach: Steven Brown. Lettermen R/L: 11/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 8-3 bi-district finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Malaki Deleon (5-7, 145, 4.8), OL Augustin Reyes (5-9, 180, 5.3), C Jonathan Harkey (6-0, 180, 5.5), QB/DB Brayden Fiscus (5-9, 150, 5.1), RB/DE Gilberto Garcia (5-8, 170, 5.0), RB/LB Cass Cunningham (6-4, 200, 5.1), RB/LB Jesus Perez (6-1, 190, 5.0), RB/DL Peter Duron (5-6, 140, 5.1), C Eddie Olvera (5-4, 150, 5.1), RB/DB Carlos Lampkin, OL Dominic Smith, C Jose Rocha, QB/DB Lonie Davis, RB/DL Allan Alleya, OL Josiah Garcia, RB/DE Jaiden Zapata, RB/DE Adolpho Robinett.

2025 notes: The Indians are coming off a year in which they ended the longest playoff drought in the state (80 years) and won their first-ever district championship. That success has Prairie Lea hungry to show it wasn't a fluke and the Indians have gotten bigger and deeper in the trenches and backfield during the offseason.

RUNGE YELLOWJACKETS (50)

Coach: Brent Bode. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 3-7/1-2 district.

District 15-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Jayden Payton, Menard

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Blake Teeple, Eden

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| 1. Menard | 3. Eden |
| 2. Medina | 4. Leakey |
| | 5. Nueces Canyon |

NUECES CANYON PANTHERS (82)

Coach: Todd Lawdermilk. Lettermen R/L: 12/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-9/0-4 district.

Players to watch: FB/DE Eli Burchett, C/DL Cristian Carabajal, QB/DB Thalen Roller, WR/DL Colin Taylor, WR/LB Hayden Stotts, WR/DB Creed Light, FB/LB Christian Carabajal, FB/DE Christopher Romero, WR/DE Kyle Johnson, RB/LB Dodge Turner, RB/DB Andrei Lara.

2025 notes: After a year of growing pains, the Panthers have a full offseason of Lawdermilk's leadership. WR/DL Taylor (81 tackles) had a strong freshman year, and his growth will help the Nueces Canyon defense in several ways.

Players to watch: ATH Jose Mendoza (5-10, 170, 4.6), RB/LB Bradley Jones (5-11, 165, 4.6), WR Daniel Pantoja (5-9, 160, 4.8), QB Jayden Garcia (6-1, 220, 4.9), DB Carlos Ibarra (6-2, 165, 4.8), C/DE Kaleb Streety (5-11, 175, 4.9), FB/DL Bryan Salazar (5-9, 200, 4.8), ATH Jose Naranjo, LB Fabian Pena, RB/DB Nathaniel Perez, QB Evan Hernandez, DE Damon Castillo.

2025 notes: ATH Mendoza is "the definition of versatile" and can line up anywhere on the field and make an impact for the Yellowjackets. RB/LB Jones burst onto the scene as a freshman and Bode has plans to expand his role this year. QB Garcia is back from injury.

District 16-1A DI

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

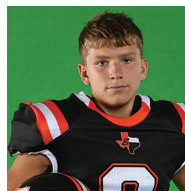
RB Malaki Deleon, Prairie Lea

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

ATH Jose Mendoza, Runge

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Prairie Lea | 3. Knippa |
| 2. Runge | 4. Benavides |



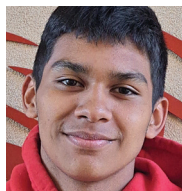
Kai HILLIARD
QB/LB/K
Fannindel



Trevin HOUSTON
C/LB
Sanderson



Erwin JAIME
DE
Chillicothe



Freddy GARCIA
RB
Chillicothe



Bode HAM
RB/DB
Jayton



Cutter LEE
RB/DB
Jayton



Hayden LAWSON
TE/DE
Forestburg



Alex SAUCED
RB/DL
Bluff Dale



Ben STEWART
C/LB
Bluff Dale



Nason RUCKER
RB/DB
Mount Calm



Reid BLAIN
C/DT
Mount Calm



Darrerion THOMAS
RB/DE
Oakwood



Dayden VELASQUEZ
QB
Oakwood



Jackson POUNDS
RB/LB
Sidney

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

FOLLETT PANTHERS (53)

Coach: Chad Gaspar. Letterman R/L: 14/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 8-4 regional finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Wyatt Terrell (5-11, 170), RB Logan Meeks (6-0, 155), DL Collin Victory (5-8, 175). Top juniors: OL Cooper Schoenhals (5-11, 230), QB Dallas Frame (5-10, 165). Top sophomore: ATH Gregory Lusk (5-10, 160), LB Braddock Frazee, OL Ozzy Esquivel.

2025 notes: The goal is always the same in Follett, and that's to win another district championship and aim toward December football. RB Terrell (555 yards) always gives a team that chance with his running and passing ability. RB Meeks is another dangerous weapon in the Panthers' arsenal and DL Victory makes life miserable for opposing offenses. QB Frame is going to have big shoes to fill as the next man up.

GROOM TIGERS (52)

Coach: Tory Peet. Letterman R/L: 6/5. Starters returning O/D: 2/3. 2024: 5-5/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Kenneth McGinty (5-11, 150), QB/DB Davis Babcock (5-11, 145), OL/DL Clay Oliveira (5-9, 165), WR/DL Jake Babcock (5-10, 145).

2025 notes: It will be a new-look Groom team

with only five starters coming back from a year ago. QB/DB Davis Babcock enters into the leading spot to replace Grayson Peet, while RB McGinty is taking over for durable RB Bryson Shuck. WR Jake Babcock is going to be counted on as a weapon for the Tigers, as will OL/DL Oliveira.

LEFORS PIRATES (50)

Coach: Brendan Fisk. Letterman R/L: 2/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 2-8/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Joe Johnson, WR/DB Chase Cook, WR/DB Aiden Coombes, RB/DB Aydin Madron, FB/LB Trace Coombes, WR/DL Bradlee Lavrenz, RB/DB Miguel Villegas, OL/LB Archer Soto, QB/DL Tyler Howard.

2025 notes: As always in Six-Man, depth is an issue for the Pirates but experience is the complete opposite. The Pirates return nine starters, including five on the offensive side of the ball. RB/LB Johnson, WR/DB Cook, WR/DB Coombes and RB Madron all saw plenty of snaps last season and will bring leadership in 2025. FB/LB Trace Coombes and QB/DL Howard are younger players that can make an impact.

MIAMI WARRIORS (60)

Coach: Paul Hale. Letterman R/L: 8/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4 bi-district finalist/2-1

way. Donnell has seven juniors he expects to see significant action as McLean has just two seniors, TE Alston and DL Castillo, set to play.

MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS (50)

Coach: Mike Bigham. Letterman R/L: 20/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 11-1 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Culley Lawrence (5-7, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Paul Johannes (5-8, 155, 4.6), RB/LB Ronaldo Ortiz (6-2, 175, 4.9), C/DL Colter Fisk (6-1, 260, 5.5), C Tylan Martin (6-0, 220, 5.0), QB Karmelo Guzman (6-0, 170, 5.2).

Other prospects: TE Josiah Martinez, DE Brandon Smith, FB/DL Ace Taylor, E Caden Bingham.

2025 notes: With 18 consecutive playoff appearances, nobody in the program knows anything different and that has Motley County banking on a successful year. RB/LB Lawrence was a first-team all-state selection as a freshman and brings a game-changing ability to the backfield.

PADUCAH DRAGONS (53)

Coach: Eric Rekieta. Letterman R/L: 11/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Darren Mackey (6-4, 205,

District 1-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Wyatt Terrell, Follett

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DL Kristopher Gorecki, Miami

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. Miami | 3. Groom |
| 2. Follett | 4. Lefors |

district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Kristopher Gorecki (5-9, 245, 5.0), QB/LB Jack Kotara (5-8, 140, 4.9), RB/LB Noah Hornfeld (5-10, 180, 4.9), RB/LB Gunner Lackey (5-10, 140, 4.8), OL/DL Gary Lynch (5-8, 185, 5.0), OL/DL Tyler Anderson (6-5, 175).

2025 notes: With eight returning starters, the pieces are in place for the Warriors to see success and a run in the playoffs during the 2025 season. The experience starts with two-way lineman Gorecki, who has been a leader and brings much needed experience up front. QB Kotara (470 yards) helps Hale in the backfield as does RB Hornfeld (628

HEDLEY OWLS (23)

Coach: Allen Grant. Letterman R/L: 3/2. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 1-3/1-3 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB Payton Inman, QB/WR Paeton Glover, RB/WR Josue Prieto, WR/DB Takoda Edwards, RB/DB Alex Garcia, C/DL Kutter O'Keefe.

2025 notes: Outside of senior QB/WR Glover, the Owls will have a roster of freshmen and sophomores, but don't let that fool you. Grant says the group has played together since junior high and brings plenty of chemistry to the field. That chemistry will help the youthful squad adapt to Friday nights.

McLEAN TIGERS (60)

Coach: David Donnell. Letterman R/L: 15/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Stran Henderson (5-10, 175), QB Wyatt Hagler (5-10, 155), ATH Andrew Bauer (5-10, 155), ATH Slayde Stalles (5-11, 150), RB Grey Hagler (6-0, 165), TE Colin Alston (6-1, 175), DL Jesse Woods (5-10, 190), DE Miles Reynolds (5-11, 155), ATH Angel Vega (5-9, 145).

Other prospects: DL Diego Castillo, C Carter Jones, ATH Levi Spurling.

2025 notes: The Tigers are poised to have a big year with nearly all of their roster back from a year ago and a bevy of talented juniors leading the

AMHERST BULLDOGS (30)

Coach: Daniel Hinojosa. Letterman R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-3 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Joel Garcia (6-2, 215, 4.7), RB/DB Aiden Rodriguez (5-7, 152, 4.6).

2025 notes: Amherst is excited about this year's potential with QB/DB Garcia's return; the senior is an accurate passer with great velocity. Hinojosa said he is also a player that leads by example. RB/DB Rodriguez, another senior, is expected to be the featured player in the backfield and is poised for a big year.

ANTON BULLDOGS (52)

Coach: Brian Duncan. Letterman R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 4-5/1-2 district.

2025 notes: One of the smaller schools in the state, the Bulldogs are full of heart and pride. Duncan has a program that is full of tough, dedicated players that want to compete at a high level. Anton has family-like support throughout the program and that will help with the squad's already strong team chemistry.

LAZBUDDIE LONGHORNS (38)

Coach: Shawn Kerr. Letterman R/L: 12/1. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 0-9/0-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Karim Porras (6-0, 130), FB/LB Bruno Castro-Ibarra (6-0, 170), QB Dylan Tyler (5-10, 125), C/DL Leelynn Davis (5-10, 190), OL/DE Sebastian Castro-Ibarra (5-10, 145), DB Olver Espinoza (5-5, 105), DE Cole Dyck (6-1, 130).

2025 notes: RB Porras is coming off a big junior year and is someone that Kerr expects to rely on heavily this season. Porras' experience is crucial as the Longhorns are set up for just their second year of football after sitting out the 2023 season. Lazbuddie's success will be measured by growth as opposed to wins this year.

WHITHARRAL PANTHERS (50)

Coach: Jeremy Holt. Letterman R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 7-3 bi-district finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Brent Robinson (5-9, 155, 4.6), OL/DL Nate Sansom (6-2, 220, 4.8), QB/DB Damian Rodriguez (5-8, 150, 4.9), RB/LB Greg Johnson (5-9, 160, 4.7). Top junior: RB/LB Daniel Rodriguez (5-

4.6), RB/LB Ethan Garibaldi (5-9, 175, 4.5), WR/LB Maverick Monroe (6-0, 175, 4.8), OL/DL Scott Billingsly (6-0, 235, 4.9), WR/DB Ben Cruz (5-10, 155, 4.7).

Other prospects: TE/LB Hudson Tucker, RB/LB Isaiah Perez, OL/DL Brody Beck, TE/DL Braylon Wright, RB/LB Nico Zapata.

2025 notes: RB/LB Garibaldi is an every down back that doesn't care if he has to run through someone or by someone and he demonstrated that as a sophomore. RB/LB Mackey is an excellent complement to him that can hurt teams with his arm or legs and is entering his fourth year starting.

District 2-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Culley Lawrence, Motley County

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Darren Mackey, Paducah

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1. Motley County | 3. McLean |
| 2. Paducah | 4. Hedley |

7, 150, 4.8), WR/LB Cooper Burns (5-10, 165, 4.9).

2025 notes: The Panthers are going to field a tenured squad this year and have plenty of speed to use to their advantage. WR/DB Robinson can lengthen the field and QB/DB Rodriguez has a cannon arm to connect downfield. OL/DL Sansom and RB/LB Johnson are stout defenders that thrive under pressure.

District 3-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Joel Garcia, Amherst

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Brent Robinson, Whitharral

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Whitharral | 3. Anton |
| 2. Amherst | 4. Lazbuddie |

DC
TX

David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

DAWSON DRAGONS (32)

Coach: Jay Bingham. Lettermen R/L: 8/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: QB Devon Armendariz (5-9, 150), WR Jordan Antu (5-10, 180), RB/LB Roman Trevino (5-7, 150), RB Jake Morado (5-9, 150), C Noah Phipps.

2025 notes: Despite a lack of on-field experience, Bingham's squad learned a lot last season and the veteran coach has high hopes for QB Armendariz, WR Antu and RB/LB Trevino, among others.

KLONDIKE COUGARS (59)

Coach: Dalton DeGraffenheid. Lettermen R/L: 11/1. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 9-5 state semifinalist/5-0 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB Jared Quintanilla (6-2, 185), FB/LB Cannon McGee (5-9, 165), TE/LB Slay Bowley (6-2, 175), WR/DB Luke Smith (6-2, 180), DT Nate Cypert (5-10, 190), QB Jake Jones (5-8, 160), C/DT Aaron Smith (6-0, 175), K Isael Rodriguez (5-7, 160), FB/DT Trenton Thixton (5-9, 160), QB/DB Kane Gonzales.

2025 notes: An explosive offense will be led by four-year starter SB/DB Quintanilla. All-state FB/LB McGee is a scoring threat every time he touches the ball.

LOOP LONGHORNS (36)

Coach: Bear Chesley. Lettermen R/L: 8/5.

BALMORHEA BEARS (58)

Coach: Abel Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 18/4. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jaycen Lozano, QB Eian Villanueva, WR Ian Simmons, DE Mateo Martinez, DL Garrett Virdell, DB Joaquin Garcia, DL Ezra Jackson, RB Aiden Baeza, LB Spencer McCrary, DE Joseph Apodaca, DB Yair Vega, DE Gael Reyes, RB Daniel Avila.

2025 notes: Despite a lack of size, Balmorhea is in position to have a monster year with a need to replace just one starter from a playoff squad. RB Lozano (859 yards, 8 TDs rushing) is going to play a key role on offense while DE Martinez is a player opposing offenses must find every play.

FORT DAVIS INDIANS (61)

Coach: Jonathan Hughes. Lettermen R/L: 12/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-5/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jayden Billingsley (5-7, 155, 4.7), ATH Daniel Lopez (5-6, 140, 4.7), RB/DB Colton Gray (5-9, 150, 4.6), C/DE Hank Pearson (6-0, 190, 5.0), WR/LB Quinn Martin (5-8, 145, 4.7), TE/DE Justin Trussell (5-11, 190, 5.0).

2025 notes: RB/LB Billingsley was a threat in all facets of the game as a junior and Hughes figures to rely on him heavily this year. Billingsley is part of a three-headed backfield attack that also showcases the talents of ATH Lopez and RB/DB Gray.

BLACKWELL HORNETS (55)

Coach: Wiley Cummings. Lettermen R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-7 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jacob Rivera (5-10, 170), RB/LB Creed Cummings (5-5, 145), QB/DB Brayden Claborn (5-10, 165), RB/LB Rennder Gardenhire (5-10, 180), E/E Jaxon Shipman (5-8, 185), RB/LB Craig Guelker (5-6, 150), RB/LB Slade Wilkinson (5-8, 155), E/E Ryder Antilley, E/E Memphis Boyd, C/E Colson Moffett, E/E Samuel Campbell, RB/DB Dameron Rivera.

2025 notes: The Hornets have a tough non-district schedule planned that will help the development of WR/DB Rivera and RB/LBs Cummings and Gardenhire to get Blackwell ready for the postseason. Despite losing just two starters from each side of the ball, the Hornets enter the season without much experience.

BRONTE LONGHORNS (57)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 5/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 5-5/2-2 district.

Players to watch: SB/DB Ray Williams, RB/LB Aiden Speary, RB/LB Joel Pena, WR/DB Parker Holland, QB/DB Jack Robbins.

2025 notes: Whoever takes over will inherit a wealth of talent. That starts with a senior class that is led by SB/DB Williams. WR/DB Holland gives Bronte a weapon in the passing game while RB/LBs

Starters returning O/D: 2/1. 2024: 7-3/3-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Rowan Rodriguez (5-10, 180, 4.7), FB Dominique Esquivel (5-7, 175, 4.9), QB Bryan Wiebe (6-1, 185, 5.0), C/DE Hayden McConnal (5-11, 180).

2025 notes: Loop has a pair of juniors (RB/DB Rodriguez, QB Wiebe) and seniors (FB Esquivel, C/DE McConnal) that should help younger players ease into their roles.

SANDS MUSTANGS (58)

Coach: Jacob Massey. Lettermen R/L: 10/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-4 area finalist/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Gordo Soliz (5-5, 140), DB Bray Shafner (5-7, 150), OL Evan Segundo (5-10, 255), LB Caleb Bodayo (5-9, 150), QB Tate Henderson (5-7, 140).

2025 notes: RB Soliz (2,075 yards, 38 TDs rushing) had a monster year as a freshman and looks to build on a sterling year as he runs behind OL Segundo, a team leader.

SOUTHLAND EAGLES (27)

Coach: Austin Moreno. Lettermen R/L: 7/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/2-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Caleb Sanchez, TE Spencer McMahan, FB Kyler McKinnon, DB Elijah Perez, QB Adam Rodela.

2025 notes: The Eagles have a program where everyone sees each other as family and Moreno sees

GRANDFALLS-ROYALTY COWBOYS (35)

Coach: Tom McVey. Lettermen R/L: 4/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-4 bi-district finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Gavin Butler (5-9), QB/DB Aiden Dominguez (6-1), ATH Jason Burns (5-7), ATH Gino Cruz (5-7), ATH Aaron Cuellar (5-7), OL/DL Christian Renteria (5-10).

2025 notes: The Cowboys have most of their team returning from last season and that gives McVey a reason to be optimistic due to their experience. The squad is going to have a fairly small roster, so staying healthy will be paramount for Grandfalls-Royalty to have a successful campaign.

SANDERSON EAGLES (33)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 9/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 6-3/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Austin McDonald (5-9, 160, 4.6), C/LB Trevin Houston (5-8, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Ivan de la Cruz (5-7, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Luke Rivera (5-11, 155, 4.7), WR Colt McDonald (5-7, 120, 4.9), C/DL Koby Kiliard.

2025 notes: The Eagles will be under new management this season. RB/DB McDonald can do it all and the Eagles believe in his ability as a lockdown defender. C/LB Houston serves as the offensive equilibrium and fills gaps on defense.

Speary and Pena are a dynamic backfield duo.

LORAIN BULLDOGS (44)

Coach: Mark Weaver. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Klay McMillan (6-0, 190), C/DE Clayton Johnson (5-10, 190), RB/DB Gabriel Perez (6-0, 150), TE/LB Quinton Smith (5-9, 170), QB/DB Santana Pantoja (5-7, 135), OL/DL Adrian Hernandez (5-9, 290), TE/DE Nate Santana (5-9, 220), RB/DB Major Emerson, RB/DB Colton Johnson, OL/DE Jeremiah Martinez.

2025 notes: Junior RB/LB McMillan had a great offseason and is a reason that Weaver is optimistic that the Bulldogs will make a deeper playoff run than a year ago. C/DE Johnson and RB/DB Perez are a pair of players that are eager to help put Loraine "on the map."

OLFEN MUSTANGS (43)

Coach: Reese Wilson. Lettermen R/L: 5/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 0-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Grant Halsell, ATH Stetson Coffey, ATH Ethan Vann, C/DL Zane Winford

2025 notes: Wilson enters his first year with the Mustangs looking to get the first win in school history. The program features several athletic players, and it will be on Wilson to take advantage of a strong work ethic.

District 4-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

SB Jared Quintanilla, Klondike

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Cannon McGee, Klondike

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Lamesa Klondike | 3. Loop |
| 2. Ackerly Sands | 4. Southland |
| | 5. Welch Dawson |
| | 6. Wilson |

that as something that will benefit Southland on the field.

WILSON MUSTANGS (34)

Coach: Rhudy Maskew. Lettermen R/L: 3/5. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 1-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Arnold Ortiz (5-10, 200), ATH Mario Castaneda, ATH Kevin Castanon, ATH Calvin Sims.

2025 notes: This year figures to be a tough one for the Mustangs with just eight players expected to be on the roster, but Maskew is excited about the new era Wilson is embarking on.

SIERRA BLANCA VAQUEROS (34)

Coach: Felix Reyes. Lettermen R/L: 5/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 5-5/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Creston Alcorn (5-9, 200), WR/RB Davien Breeding (5-8, 195, 4.7), QB Eddie Ramirez (5-7, 190), WR Jason Brown (5-7, 190), C James Manigold (5-7, 195), LB Adriel Bearden, QB Mason Ontiveros.

2025 notes: ATH Alcorn is a short yardage runner who would rather make his presence felt when delivering big hits on defense. WR/RB Breeding has speed and great hands and is a trustworthy target for QB Ramirez, who has little experience but a big arm.

District 5-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Gavin Butler, Grandfalls-Royalty

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Mateo Martinez, Balmorhea

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Balmorhea | 3. Sanderson |
| 2. Grandfalls-Royalty | 4. Fort Davis |
| | 5. Sierra Blanca |

TRENT GORILLAS (41)

Coach: Slater Isbell. Lettermen R/L: 5/1. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 4-6/1-3 district.

Players to watch: SB/LB Michael Wallis (5-9, 150), RB/DE Keagen Hollis (5-7), C/DL Chanse Williams (6-0).

2025 notes: Having not posted more than five wins in a season since 2012, the Gorillas think this year they can get over the hump with the depth that a large freshman class provides. Senior RB/DE Hollis and juniors SB/DB Wallis and C/DL Williams are the lone upperclassmen on the squad and will be counted upon as team leaders.

District 6-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

SB Ray Williams, Bronte

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Jacob Rivera, Blackwell

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Blackwell | 3. Loraine |
| 2. Bronte | 4. Trent |
| | 5. Olfen |

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BENJAMIN MUSTANGS (45)

Coach: Nathan Hayes. Lettermen R/L: 10/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 9-2 region finalist/4-0 district. Players to watch: RB Keegan Hayes (6-0, 185, 4.7), E Everett Cates (6-0, 160, 5.0), RB/LB Elijah Trevino (5-9, 180, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Mustangs won't be as deep this year as in previous years, but they have a difference maker in RB Hayes (2,163 yards, 29 TDs passing; 2,202 yards, 44 TDs rushing) in the backfield. E Cates and RB/LB Trevino are defensive leaders that Benjamin can count on to shut down opponents.

CHILLICOTHE EAGLES (59)

Coach: Zack Ryan. Lettermen R/L: 2/5. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 4-6/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Freddy Garcia (5-8, 150), ATH Konner Horn (6-0, 125), ATH Braylan Vidaaurri (5-4, 130). Top junior: DE Erwin Jaime (6-0, 185).

2025 notes: The Eagles should be ready to fly once district season rolls around. Senior RB Garcia will be responsible for leading the team and helping a lot of underclassmen get used to what it takes to win on Friday nights.

CROWELL WILDCATS (44)

Coach: Aaron Maxwell. Lettermen R/L: 4/5.

ASPERMONT HORNETS (60)

Coach: Pat Potts. Lettermen R/L: 5/2. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Caleb Broshears (6-0, 170), RB Kolby Bradshaw (5-9, 185), E/LB Jaxon Hodges (6-0, 185), OL/DL Tyler Kessinger (5-8, 230), RB/LB Isaiah Johnson (5-11, 170), C James Bell (5-10, 220), QB/DB Graden Rabel (5-8, 150), OL/DL Zayne Smith, OL/LB Landon Dickerson.

2025 notes: The Hornets enter this season looking for younger players like RB/LB Johnson, QB/DB Rabel and OL/LB Dickerson to play key roles as they look to make another postseason appearance. A lack of experience on the field should be mitigated by system continuity as the coaching staff doesn't have to focus on a learning gap.

JAYTON JAYBIRDS (53)

Coach: Josh Stanaland. Lettermen R/L: 11/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 15-0 state champion/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Bode Ham (5-9, 150), QB/DB Sean Stanaland (6-1, 170), C/DE Colt Gentry (6-2, 180), TE/DL Dayton Bleiker (6-1, 240), RB/DB Lorenzo Vargas (5-9, 140), RB/DB Cutter Lee (5-9, 150), TE/DB/K Tucker Scott (5-10, 150), TE/DL Garrison Allen (6-4, 325), C/DL Cooper Spray, TE/DL Hunter Abernathy, C/DL Ethan Stelzer.

2025 notes: The nucleus of a team that broke a

39-year title drought for the Jaybirds is back and coming off its second consecutive basketball state championship. RB/DB Ham, QB/DB Stanaland and C/DE Gentry are some of the top players in the classification and should lead Jayton back to Arlington.

2025 notes: The Hornets enter this season looking for younger players like RB/LB Johnson, QB/DB Rabel and OL/LB Dickerson to play key roles as they look to make another postseason appearance. A lack of experience on the field should be mitigated by system continuity as the coaching staff doesn't have to focus on a learning gap.

GUTHRIE JAGUARS (25)

Coach: Danny Sloan. Lettermen R/L: 6/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-6/1-3 district.

Players to watch: SB/DE Kaleb Green (5-10, 160), QB/LB Steven Uribe (5-9, 170), E/E Gage Worthington (5-9, 175), RB/LB Rodie Sanders (6-1, 175), E Clay Hodges (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: An offseason of growth in the weight room has Sloan excited about the potential of this year's team. SB/DE Green (1,490 yards, 30 TDs rushing) is a big-play threat on offense and will benefit from the return of RB/LB Sanders, who missed last season with an injury.

HARROLD HORNETS (44)

Coach: Shad Walker. Lettermen R/L: 6/4. Starters

returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-5/2-2 district. Players to watch: RB/DB Joaquin Zambrano (5-8, 150), ATH Jeremiah Torres (5-7, 175), C/DE Aiden Butler (5-9, 180), ATH Antonio Sahagun (5-7, 140), QB/DB Kinser Ramsey (5-5, 140), ATH Aaron Morales (5-5, 145), QB/LB Kevin Granados (5-7, 150).

LUEDERS-AVOCA RAIDERS (27)

Coach: Donnie Waters. Lettermen R/L: 6/0. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 0-10/0-4 district.

Players to watch: E/DE Justin Stewart, RB/DB Rope Hicks, QB/DB Addison Neatherlin, C/DE Levi McCarter.

2025 notes: Lueders-Avoca returns its entire roster from last season and thinks that E/DE Stewart and C/DE McCarter can set the tone up front for the rest of the squad.

PAINT CREEK PIRATES (26)

Coach: Shannon Waters. Lettermen R/L: 5/5. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 6-4/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Marcus Gonzales (5-10, 180, 4.8), QB Chris Wesley (5-10, 4.6), TE Sonny Payne (5-9, 4.9), TE Esaiah Sanchez (5-10, 255, 5.2), C Martin Wilson (5-9, 160, 5.0), WR/DB Adrian Nunez (5-11, 160, 4.8).

2025 notes: A strong senior class brings lots of experience to both offense and defense and that has the Pirates thinking about their postseason potential. RB Gonzales and TE Payne lead the seniors while junior

Alanis, E/E Danny Sifuentes.

2025 notes: Expectations are high in Strawn as the Greyhounds didn't lose any lettermen or starters from last year's squad, setting the table for what Lee hopes will be a deep playoff run. RB/DE Barcenas and QB Nunez are a pair of speedy seniors who should help to set the tone for Strawn early in the year.

THROCKMORTON GREYHOUNDS (46)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 7/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-10/0-3 district.

Players to watch: RB Tilon Harden (5-10, 170, 5.0), DL Brice Beaver (5-11, 220, 5.1), WR Porter Redwine (6-1, 150, 5.1), ATH Kaden Peacock (6-1, 155, 5.1), C Brody Crisp (6-0, 250, 5.4).

2025 notes: The Greyhounds didn't use ATH Peacock's arm much last year and his progression leading the offense will be crucial for Throckmorton's success. RB Harden (451 yards, 5 TDs rushing) will step into the featured back role and will need to take pressure off Peacock.

WOODSON COWBOYS (60)

Coach: Caleb Hagle. Lettermen R/L: 11/9. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 6-5 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

District 7-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Keegan Hayes, Benjamin

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Kaleb Green, Guthrie

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Benjamin | 3. Crowell |
| 2. Guthrie | 4. Harrold |
| | 5. Chillicothe |

returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-5/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Joaquin Zambrano (5-8, 150), ATH Jeremiah Torres (5-7, 175), C/DE Aiden Butler (5-9, 180), ATH Antonio Sahagun (5-7, 140), QB/DB Kinser Ramsey (5-5, 140), ATH Aaron Morales (5-5, 145), QB/LB Kevin Granados (5-7, 150).

Other prospect: FB/LB Roman Lindop.

2025 notes: RB/DB Zambrano led Harrold in tackles as a sophomore and will be the featured runner in a talented offensive backfield. ATH Torres is an elusive runner who creates mismatches for opponents while C/DE Butler is a "defensive machine" who often disrupts opposing offenses.

QB Wesley directs the offense with ease. Paint Creek will need to stay healthy to overcome a lack of depth.

RULE BOBCATS (39)

Coach: Gage Bozeman. Lettermen R/L: 8/7. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 5-5/2-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Hayden Trevino (5-9, 140), QB/LB Colton Blair (5-6, 150).

2025 notes: ATH Trevino did big things as a freshman and Bozeman is excited about the possibilities that he brings to the table. QB/LB Blair, a junior, is going to be asked to step into new roles and fill big shoes, but Bozeman thinks he has great poise.

District 8-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Bode Ham, Jayton

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DB Sean Stanaland, Jayton

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Jayton | 3. Paint Creek |
| 2. Aspermont | 4. Rule |
| | 5. Lueders-Avoca |

MORAN BULLDOGS (36)

Coach: John Hughes. Lettermen R/L: 4/3. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 2-8/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Zeke Henson, OL/DL Miguel Rodriguez, WR/DB Jason Burge, WR/DB Dylan Herod.

Other prospects: QB/DB Christian Rodriguez, C Landon Herrell, WR/DB James Hise, WR Andy Barron.

2025 notes: RB Henson, OL/DL Rodriguez, WR/DB Burge and WR/DB Herod all saw limited action as freshmen and will be counted on to lead the team as Moran will field a roster with no juniors or seniors this year. Hughes sees that youth as a team strength as they will have time to build the program.

STRAWN GREYHOUNDS (49)

Coach: Dewaine Lee. Lettermen R/L: 12/0. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 8-3 area finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Michael Barcenas (5-7, 180, 4.5), QB Kaison Nunez (6-0, 170, 4.5), RB/LB Johnny Fraga (5-8, 180, 4.8), E/DB Ben Hopkins (6-1, 180), RB/LB Nic Lynn (5-7, 170, 4.5), E/LB Jackson Brister (5-8, 180, 4.6), RB/LB Daniel Orduna (5-6, 165, 4.7), C Alex Hughes (6-1, 230).

Other prospects: QB/DB Carter Mallory, RB/DB Yandel Yanez, E/DL Chris Hernandez, C Alfonso

Players to watch: E/DE Chris Overton (6-3, 180), E/DB Carson Bellah (6-0, 160), RB/DE Carter Bandy (5-10, 185), RB/LB Lake Lawson (5-9, 160), QB/DB Gunner Oliver (5-11, 165).

2025 notes: Despite losing a lot of experience, the Cowboys are poised to have a big year as Hagle says they showed real hunger and determination to get back to winning ways during the offseason. He says there has been a renewed sense of purpose and drive and just being competitive isn't the goal anymore.

District 9-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Michael Barcenas, Strawn

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Chris Overton, Woodson

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. Strawn | 3. Throckmorton |
| 2. Woodson | 4. Moran |

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

FANNINDEL FALCONS (36)

Coach: Jamie Rigdon. Lettermen R/L: 11/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 4-7 bi-district finalist/1-1 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB/K Kai Hilliard, ATH Kalob Runnels, ATH Noah Trussell, ATH Terren Judkins Jr., RB Daylon Powell, DE Gavin Watson, DE Josh Tinnell, ATH Nathaniel Castillo.

Other prospects: ATH Chevy Wiggins, C Jaiden Kisner.

2025 notes: ATH Hilliard was an all-region pick at Sanderson last season. Senior ATH Runnels (1,784 yards, 27 total TDs) is an offensive gamechanger that also excels as a defensive leader. ATH Trussell, another senior, will look to take pressure off Runnels as the Falcons hope that a roster full of underclassmen develops quickly.

FORESTBURG LONGHORNS (57)

Coach: Greg Roller. Lettermen R/L: 6/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 2-8/0-2 district.

BLUFF DALE BOBCATS (55)

Coach: Gaeron Cooley. Lettermen R/L: 10/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 6-4/2-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Alex Saucedo (5-8, 145, 4.4), C/LB Ben Stewart (6-4, 215, 4.6), QB/DL Austin Saucedo (5-10, 165, 4.5), RB/DB Kaden Wentworth (6-0, 185, 4.4), WR/DB Case Davis (6-1, 165, 4.5), ATH Jace Coffman (5-9, 145, 4.5), WR/DB Keigen Halford (6-4, 180, 4.5).

Other prospects: WR/DB Joel Deskin, RB/DB Jacob Payne, RB/DL Josiah Rogers, WR/DB Zack Knight, C/DL Tate Townsend, QB/DB Isaiah Knight, RB/DL John Burton

2025 notes: Experience is going to be pivotal for Bluff Dale this year as the Bobcats will see the return of RB/DL Saucedo from injury and only need to fill one hole on either side of the ball.

IREDELL DRAGONS (48)

Coach: Luis Guereca. Lettermen R/L: 10/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-3 region finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: E/DE Caleb Garland (6-3, 225, 4.8), RB/DB Cole Heutzenroeder (6-1, 190, 4.9), RB/DB Jordan Guterrez (5-8, 150, 4.5), C/DE Caden Sweat (6-2, 205, 4.9), RB/DB Gavin Vara (6-0, 160, 4.7), FB/DL Adan Aguilar (5-8, 170, 5.0), OL/DL Aaron Aguilar (5-8, 185, 5.2), RB/DB Landon Keel (5-8, 155, 4.9), QB/DB Corter Sweat (5-10, 145, 5.1).

Other prospect: OL/DL Xavier Martinez.

2025 notes: The four words best suited to sum up the Dragons this year are: depth, experience, size and speed. RB/DB Heutzenroeder is a dangerous

BYNUM BULLDOGS (57)

Coach: Casey Morgan. Lettermen R/L: 10/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 2-9 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jackson Allen, TE/DL Brayden Sourbeck, C/DL Ashton Hawkins, FB/LB Carter Baxter, RB/DB Anthony Arango, FB/LB Matthew Canales, OL/DL Xavier Fuentes, OL/DL Chris Howell.

2025 notes: Morgan expects that his squad will be in the hunt for a playoff berth and his belief stems from their strength along the offensive and defensive lines. RB/LB Allen averaged multiple scores per game as a junior and looks to build upon that success this fall.

MOUNT CALM PANTHERS (35)

Coach: Garrett Rose. Lettermen R/L: 11/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 5-5/1-2 district.

Players to watch: C/DL Reid Blain (6-0, 215), FB/DE Mason Bailey (5-11, 210), RB/DB Nason Rucker (5-9, 165), C Jacob Maples (6-2, 180), RB/DB Trey Walker (5-9, 165), WR/DB Colton Peterson (6-3, 175), QB/DB Christian Morales (5-9, 170), QB/DB Mason Carmean (6-0, 175), FB/LB Matt Childre (5-9, 180).

Other prospects: DE Calvin Hill, WR/DB Maddox Ellison.

2025 notes: Expect the Panthers to fling the ball

Players to watch: TE/DE Hayden Lawson (5-10, 180, 4.8), C/DE Tristan Cumby (6-2, 190, 5.0), QB/DE John Carranza (5-11, 160, 4.9), FB/DL Aiden White (5-9, 195, 4.7), RB/DB Keagan Willett (5-11, 170, 4.7), RB/DB Juan Gonzalez (5-6, 135, 4.8). Top junior: TE/DE Houston Johnson (5-11, 185, 5.0).

Other prospect: OL/DL Eastan Organ.

2025 notes: Senior TE/DE Lawson has played in every game since he was a freshman and serves as Forestburg's leader on the field. QB/DE Carranza gained valuable experience leading the offense in the second half of 2024 and has a reliable passing game target in FB/DL White.

GOLD-BURG BEARS (49)

Coach: Christian Healer. Lettermen R/L: 12/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 7-5 area finalist/2-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Levi Hellinger (5-8, 140), ATH Keelyn Case (5-11, 160), ATH Paul Jones (6-0, 170). Top junior: C/DL Barrett Allen (6-2, 200), WR Brady Allen

runner when he has the ball in his hands, while RB/DB Guterrez has breakaway speed.

KOPPERL EAGLES (46)

Coach: Ken Davis. Lettermen R/L: 9/7. Starters returning O/D: 1/2. 2024: 5-4/1-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Bearon Brinkley (5-9, 160, 4.4), QB/DB Kaden Watts (5-10, 155, 4.8), TE/DE Dalton Tidwell (5-8, 150, 4.6), C Jaden Eilers (6-2, 160, 4.8), RB/LB Jairo Vega (5-10, 160, 4.7), WR/DB Caleb Payen (5-7, 130, 5.0).

Other prospects: OL/DL Cade Greenberg, OL/DL Jaxon Phillips, K Christopher Gomez, RB/DE Gage Smith, WR/DB Ian Siebenaller.

2025 notes: RB/LB Brinkley will be responsible for most of the work on offense while also leading the defense as a four-year starter. C Eilers, a junior, will step up with more responsibilities both on and off the field.

MORGAN EAGLES (45)

Coach: Alan Berrio. Lettermen R/L: 9/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Adrian Alonzo (5-9, 135, 4.8), RB/LB Roloando Monroy (6-0, 200), QB/C Heath Tedder (5-10, 175), E/LB David Garcia (6-0, 195), WR/DE Reece Frailey (6-5, 195), E/DE Phoenix Dellos (6-0, 195), C Bryce Pounds (6-0, 200), DB Jace Parker (6-1, 135).

2025 notes: A full offseason in Berrio's program has the Eagles looking to steal a playoff spot this

all over the field this year as the entire receiving corps is back from 2024, and that should help ease the burden of needing to replace the offensive line. QB/DBs Morales and Carmean will battle for the opportunity to lead the offense and will benefit from the experience around them.

OAKWOOD PANTHERS (55)

Coach: J.J. Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 16/4. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-6 state finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Dayden Velasquez (5-8, 165, 4.9), RB/DE Darrerion Thomas (5-9, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Brady Harrison (6-0, 165, 4.9), RB/DE Nick Strickland (6-0, 220, 5.8), ATH Micah Reed (6-1, 190, 4.8).

2025 notes: The Panthers aren't going to sneak up on anyone this year as most of the state finalist roster returns this fall, led by QB Velasquez. RB/DE Thomas is a workhorse back while WR/DB Harrison is a threat to score when the ball is in his hands. Johnson thinks the defense will improve from 2024.

TRINIDAD TROJANS (45)

Coach: Michael Warren. Lettermen R/L: 3/3. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 2-8/0-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Colby Brown (6-1, 205), C/DL Hunter Martin (6-0, 215), FB/DL Braydon

District 10-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Kai Hilliard, Fannindel

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Hayden Lawson, Forestburg

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Bowie Gold-burg
2. Fannindel
3. Forestburg

(5-7, 120).

2025 notes: This year's team has the potential to be the first squad in school history to make it to the postseason in consecutive years. The Bears will rely on their running game and defensive physicality after losing a talented senior class. Gold-Burg is also looking for just its third district title in school history.

fall. RB Alonzo, RB/LB Monroy and QB/C Tedder are expected to be the biggest benefactors.

THREE WAY BRAVES (43)

Coach: James Rigdon III. Lettermen R/L: 3/3. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 9-2 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Collin Grant (5-9, 160, 4.8), ATH Logan Trussell (5-9, 200, 4.8), WR Jose Torres (6-0, 160), ATH Brian Batchelor (5-8, 150), ATH Jace Batchelor (5-8, 150), C Cole Schrimsher (6-1, 155). Top junior: ATH Manny Alvarado (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: After surprising many in the state with a defense that posted seven shutouts to start 2024, the Braves are back to prove that wasn't a fluke.

District 11-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Alex Saucedo, Bluff Dale

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Caleb Garland, Iredell

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Iredell
2. Bluff Dale
3. Three Way
4. Kopperl
5. Morgan

Martin (5-9, 205), WR/DB Brendon Smith (6-3, 165), QB/DB Ethan Dann (6-0, 160), OL/DL Jonathan Tharp (6-0, 215).

Other prospects: DB Cayson Roberts, DB Nathan Dann.

2025 notes: Warren thinks the Trojans have the right makeup to be special this year, but the squad will need to figure out how to win with their talent. Trinidad has young leaders that are seasoned, but the biggest question mark the team faces entering the season is who will take over at quarterback.

District 12-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

QB Dayden Velasquez, Oakwood

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Jackson Allen, Bynum

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

1. Oakwood
2. Bynum
3. Mount Calm
4. Trinidad

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BLANKET TIGERS (39)

Coach: Jalen Helms. Lettermen R/L: 7/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-2-1 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Kannon Kensing (6-0, 185), C/DE Mason Beck (6-0, 185), WR/LB Brian Shannon (5-10, 150), WR/LB Kade Russell (5-8, 140), QB/LB AC French (5-8, 150), QB/DB Cole Furry (5-9, 140), WR/DL Karter Keel (6-0, 165), RB/LB Brayden Caine, DL Abel McLaughlin, RB/LB Alex Valdez, RB/LB Vash Langford, OL/DL Jaidan Langford, WR/DE Landen Romero, QB/LB Leo Valdez.

2025 notes: Blanket has the potential to be one of the top teams in the region behind a bevy of seniors with a great work ethic. Helms has high expectations for this fall with RB/DE Kensing being a threat to score on offense and defense.

GUSTINE TIGERS (33)

Coach: Landry Gunter. Lettermen R/L: 9/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 7-2-2-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Andy Garcia (5-5, 150), RB/LB Alonso Gomez (5-8, 180), RB/DB Anthony Patino (5-6, 145), WR/DL Michael Garcia (6-0, 185), RB/LB Shane Ahearn (5-8, 165), WR/DB Caleb Newton (5-9, 145).

2025 notes: Gunter is planning to run a T-formation on offense with a 3-3 defense as he takes over the Tigers this year. He has a squad heavy

on young talent with sophomores QB/LB Garcia and RB/LB Gomez leading the charge.

RIISING STAR WILDCATS (51)

Coach: Brent Williamson. Lettermen R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 4-6-1-3 district.

Players to watch: SB Anthony Pollard (6-0, 190), C Leland Schenk (5-10, 170), DB Kason McGinn (5-8, 130), RB Pacey McGinn (5-6, 140), RB Payton McGinn (5-6, 140), RB Chance Wells (5-11, 140), WR/DB Kaiden Griffith (6-0, 165), WR Juankeen Froese.

2025 notes: After dealing with injuries last year, the Wildcats are healthy, deep and experienced heading into this fall. SB Pollard is a threat on offense and defense, while also earning all-district honors as a punter.

SIDNEY EAGLES (46)

Coach: James Rucker. Lettermen R/L: 7/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-6-0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jackson Pounds (5-6, 145, 4.8), QB/DB Ethan Scantling (5-9, 140), RB/DB Reese Miller (5-6, 140), TE/LB Dylan Terpstra (6-3, 160).

2025 notes: RB/LB Pounds is going to be Sidney's workhorse on both sides of the line of scrimmage and brings a toughness. QB/DB Scantling learned a lot as a sophomore and Rucker thinks he will make better reads on run/pass options.

MULLIN BULLDOGS (30)

Coach: Ethan Smart. Lettermen R/L: 5/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8-0-4 district.

2025 notes: Entering his first season leading the Bulldogs, Smart has a lot to learn about his program in a short amount of time. One advantage that he does have is that he has all but one starter returning, but Mullin will be faced with having just seven players on the roster.

OGLESBY TIGERS (57)

Coach: Jeb Dixon. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 11-3 state semifinalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DE Aiden Oxford (5-8, 150, 4.6), TE/DE Kayson Campbell (6-1, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Jack Hendricks (5-10, 235, 4.9), OL/DL Holdyn Goff (6-0, 175, 4.9), OL/DL Mason Marquez (5-6, 230, 5.0).

2025 notes: While Oglesby took a hit to its depth with graduation, another deep playoff run is possible this year with the speed of RB/DE Oxford and the size of TE/DE Campbell. OL/DLs Hendricks, Goff and Marquez give the Tigers plenty of size and speed up front and the trio should impact every game.

BROOKESMITH MUSTANGS (55)

Coach: Blake Hood. Lettermen R/L: 1/5. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 5-4-2-2 district.

2025 notes: Hood takes over a squad that was hit hard by graduation and will have seven newcomers among the eight players on its roster. While the young players have speed, they lack experience and size and will need to stay healthy to complete the year.

LOHN EAGLES (29)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 9/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 5-5-1-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DE Dallas Keller (6-3), C/DL Kadin Reeves (5-6), TE/DE Connor Nuncio (6-1), RB/DB Sergio Sandoval (5-7), RB/LB Abel Salas (5-9).

2025 notes: Coming off their best season in 21 years, the Eagles found themselves looking for a new coach late in the spring. If he doesn't claim the starting quarterback role, TE/DE Nuncio will be a crucial blocker on offense alongside WR/DE Keller and C/DL Reeves.

PANTHER CREEK PANTHERS (50)

Coach: Gary Beam. Lettermen R/L: 9/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-8-0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Caleb Storey (5-2, 115, 4.9), QB Caleb Hale (5-7, 140, 5.2), FB/LB Izaak Olinger (5-7, 145, 5.3), E/E Jonah Torres (5-11, 182, 5.6), E/E

Aidan Patterson (6-1, 165, 5.7), RB Aidan Wyatt.

2025 notes: After playing five freshmen in 2024, the Panthers are hoping to take a step forward this fall with a roster excited about the season. Protecting QB Hale will be critical for Panther Creek and that can also take pressure off RB/LB Storey in the rushing attack.

RICHLAND SPRINGS COYOTES (57)

Coach: Open. Lettermen R/L: 12/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 12-1 region finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: Billy Perry, Cohen Ethridge, Ethan Deeds, Rush Norris, Bryce Roesler, Eli Hutchins, Trendon Vogel, Evan Deeds, Layne Ward, Ian McKinney, Dalton Moats, Christian McKinney.

2025 notes: Perry is a two-way star that led the Coyotes in rushing, passing, tackles and sacks in 2024 and will be looking to build on that campaign. Ethridge and Deeds could become household names.

ROCHELLE HORNETS (52)

Coach: Matt Maciel. Lettermen R/L: 8/8. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 5-5 bi-district finalist/3-1 district.

Players to watch: SB/DE Jayce McCormick (5-9, 170, 4.8), FB/DL Xavier Mendez (6-0, 200, 5.0), RB/LB Chris Lopez (5-9, 175, 4.8), OL/DE Estevan Gonzales (5-10, 165, 5.0), OL/DE Maddox Howell (5-

District 13-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Chayden Woodcock, Zephyr

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Kannon Kensing, Blanket

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. Zephyr | 3. Gustine |
| 2. Blanket | 4. Rising Star |
| | 5. Sidney |

ZEPHYR BULLDOGS (61)

Coach: Jeremy Phillips. Lettermen R/L: 7/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Chayden Woodcock, OL/DL Trapper Schoenhals, ATH CJ Byers, ATH Reese Hamm, OL/DL Corben Gosnell, RB/DB Shayden Prickett, OL/DL Ryan Glosson, C/DL Bauer Blair, RB/DB Jetson Gowin, ATH Ethan Prochaska, QB/DB Spencer Marwitz, RB/DB Slade Butler.

2025 notes: The Bulldogs enter the season looking for a new QB, but Phillips expects that Zephyr will contend. ATHs Byers and Hamm are joined by RB/DB Woodcock to give the Bulldogs a strong trio.

PRIDDY PIRATES (46)

Coach: Derek Ahearn. Lettermen R/L: 6/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 2-7-2-2 district.

Player to watch: DB Wyatt Frazier.
2025 notes: The Pirates will feature a young roster with five freshmen in Ahearn's first year leading the way. DB Frazier will be the lone senior on the roster and will need to help his younger teammates grow quickly. Frazier is coming off a season in which he earned first-team all-district honors.

District 14-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Edgar Dominguez, Evant

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Aiden Oxford, Oglesby

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|------------|------------------|
| 1. Oglesby | 3. Cranfills Gap |
| 2. Evant | 4. Priddy |
| | 5. Mullin |

10, 175, 4.8), OL/DE Ashton Davidson (6-2, 180, 5.2), OL/LB Kendrick Teague (5-10, 160, 4.9), QB/DB Gavin Rodriguez (5-9, 155, 4.8), C/DL Kasyn Keeney (5-11, 205, 5.3).

Other prospect: RB/LB Colton Sohns.
2025 notes: SB/DE McCormick is an excellent blocker for Rochelle's running backs and someone whose production doesn't show up on paper. FB/DL Mendez will give the Hornets size up front and that is something that the team needs to be able to compete for a district championship.

District 15-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

ATH Billy Perry, Richland Springs

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

DE Jayce McCormick, Rochelle

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. Richland Springs | 3. Brooksmith |
| 2. Rochelle | 4. Lohn |
| | 5. Panther Creek |

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

Class 1A DISTRICT PREVIEWS

BUCKHOLTS BADGERS (54)

Coach: Reggie Rosas. Lettermen R/L: 7/1. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 3-7/1-2 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Marc King (6-0, 170, 4.7), RB/LB Joseph Vega (5-10, 195, 4.8), C/DL Miquel Hernandez (6-1, 195, 5.1), RB/LB Braxton Reese (6-1, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Johandy Ventura (5-9, 155, 4.8).

Other prospect: WR/DB Joseph Hansen-Blum. 2025 notes: QB/LB King opened plenty of eyes as a freshman in 2024 and looks to have a bigger impact in his second year. Rosas expects to see growth and improvement from a year ago and said that the returning players grew in size and strength during the offseason.

CALVERT TROJANS (43)

Coach: Eric Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 6/0. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 3-6 bi-district finalist/2-1 district.

2025 notes: While saying that this year will be a building season for the Trojans, Johnson thinks the team can duplicate the playoff appearance of 2024. Even with all six starters returning, Calvert will be playing a numbers game with a projected roster of eight total players.

CHEROKEE INDIANS (46)

Coach: Zack White. Lettermen R/L: 18/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-2 area finalist/3-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Cayden Houston (6-1, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Uriah Valdez (6-1, 240, 5.0), RB/DB Weston Woolsey (5-6, 130, 4.6), QB/LB Tatum Shanklin (5-7, 185, 5.1), OL/DL Robert Bench (6-0, 210, 5.5), RB/DB Max Williams (5-10, 180, 4.7). Top junior: OL/DL Franky Penney (6-3, 230, 5.0), RB/LB Preston Hanley (5-10, 170, 4.7).

Other prospect: SB/DB Jaxon White. 2025 notes: The Indians will have a big, experienced offensive line this season and White sees that as a reason that his senior-heavy team should be able to run the ball effectively this year. White's tenure has ensured players have the same system and terminology since sixth grade, which leads to optimism about this fall.

PAWNEE INDIANS (25)

Coach: Danny Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 6/0. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 0-7/0-3 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Austin Hernandez (6-2, 210, 4.9), QB/DB Scott Oberheide (6-1, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Joaquin Ureste (5-9, 160, 4.9), RB/LB Branden Glover (6-3, 185, 4.7), WR/DB Johnny Joe Garcia (5-

District 16-1A DII

PRESEASON OFFENSIVE MVP

RB Cayden Houston, Cherokee

PRESEASON DEFENSIVE MVP

LB Marc King, Buckholts

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S PREDICTION

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Cherokee | 3. Buckholts |
| 2. Calvert | 4. Pawnee |

6, 155, 4.7), C/DL Wes Field (5-10, 180, 5.1). Top junior: RB/LB Daniel Henriquez (5-9, 185, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB/DB Kaleb Elliott, OL/DL Mark Reyes.

2025 notes: A year after fielding a team with just six players, the Indians have built up a little depth this year and that should allow the squad to be more competitive in games. All six returning lettermen earned some form of all-district honors last year and will be supplemented by freshmen in QB/DB Elliott and OL/DL Reyes.

Class 1A 2024 STATE CHAMPIONS

1A DIVISION II

Jayton

Before a regular-season game against Valley, Jayton head coach Josh Stanaland had his team turn around and look at the 1984 state championship squad being honored on the track. Then, he talked about legacy.

Stanaland believed this year's team had a chance to do what those men did in '84 and '85 — win a state title and end a 39-year drought. Others saw it too. Trey Richey, a Jayton alum and the only man to win a six-man state championship as both a player and coach, gave Stanaland a simple message: don't get in the way.

After Jayton's 54-8 win over Oakwood in the Class 1A Division II title game at AT&T Stadium, Richey delivered another one: "We brought another one back to Jayton."

But the moment still hadn't sunk in.

Defensive MVP Colt Gentry set the tone early, returning a fumble 73 yards to spark a 16-0 lead with five minutes left in the first quarter. Jayton never looked back. Quarterback Sean Stanaland — the head coach's nephew and son of assistant coach John Stanaland — combined with junior Bode Ham for seven total touchdowns.

The game ended at halftime via the 45-point mercy rule — the 14th time in 15 games Jayton triggered it.

"When the lights are the brightest, we're always at our best," Sean said.

The game may have lasted one half, but the moment will stay with Coach Stanaland forever.

"This is something I always dreamed about as a kid growing up in Jayton," he said. "I always said, 'If I could get there one time.'"

His team did. And they won.



CHAMPS AT A GLANCE

PRESEASON — In a 1A Division II turned upside-down by late-breaking events, the Jaybirds started No. 3 in *Texas Football's* preseason rankings.

TURNING POINT — The regional final win over Benjamin, the two-time defending state champs, signaled to the state that the Jaybirds were ready for prime-time.

TEAM MVP — Bode Ham, who proved to be the steady force for the Jaybirds on both sides of the ball.

BY THE NUMBERS — **971:** The number of points the Jaybirds scored in their title run, good enough for a 64.7 points per game average.

CLASS 1A DIVISION II PLAYOFF RESULTS

BI-DISTRICT: Region I: Follett 64, Paducah 22; Ackerly Sands 46, Whitharral 43; Lamesa Klondike 68, Amherst 22; Matador Motley County 44, Miami 33. Region II: Loraine 90, Grandfalls-Royalty 61; Benjamin 62, Aspermont 6; Jayton 54, Crowell 6; Blackwell 56, Balmorhea 30. Region III: Strawn 76, Ladonia Fannindel 6; Iredell 59, Bynum 14; Oakwood 74, Three Way 3; Bowie Gold-Burg 64, Woodson 62. Region IV: Zephyr 46, Evant 0; Richland Springs def. Calvert (forfeit); Cherokee 102, Rochelle 82; Oglesby 46, Blanket 0. AREA: Region I: Follett 52, Ackerly Sands 24; Lamesa Klondike 46, Matador Motley County 16. Region II: Benjamin 86, Loraine 36; Jayton 60, Blackwell 8. Region III: Iredell 91, Strawn 90; Oakwood 63, Bowie Gold-Burg 24. Region IV: Oglesby 116, Cherokee 76; Richland Springs 64, Zephyr 6. REGIONAL FINALS: Region I: Lamesa Klondike 56, Follett 6. Region II: Jayton 100, Benjamin 50. Region III: Oakwood 64, Iredell 50. Region IV: Oglesby 60, Richland Springs 46. STATE SEMIFINALS: Jayton 90, Lamesa Klondike 40; Oakwood 54, Oglesby 51. STATE FINAL: Jayton 54, Oakwood 8.

Where Legends Begin

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HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1A

FOR HIS GLORY

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HIGH SCHOOL



PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Central Texas Christian Lions charge onto the field ahead of their district matchup with Bryan Brazos Christian. Based in Temple, the Lions return 17 starters from last year's squad that reached the TAPPS Division IV state semifinals.

Photo by Chance Word

Private Schools Cover Boy **KEISEAN HENDERSON**

AT HOUSTON LEGACY,
A TOP PROSPECT BLOSSOMS

BY SAM MOORE

From the moment Keisean Henderson met Houston Legacy head coach Michael Bishop, they've been attached at the hip.

Dating back to his pee-wee football days, it was clear that Henderson's versatile athletic ability allowed him to excel on either side of the ball. He showed a natural talent for both receiving and defending the ball in the air.

When Henderson's pee-wee coach asked which position he wanted to play, he simply said, "I'm a quarterback."

It was the challenge of becoming a quarterback — and the doubters that came with it — that truly fueled his drive.

"Everyone always told me I shouldn't play quarterback. I never took the criticism to heart; I just used it as motivation and a chip on my shoulder," Henderson said.

Henderson's edge at Legacy The School of Sports Sciences — a state-accredited charter school specializing in athletic professions — comes not just from his dynamic dual-threat ability, but also from his unmatched work ethic and drive to grow as a competitor.

"Seeing his dedication, ambition, and never-quit attitude is why he's often told, 'What the other kids do is a reflection of you,'" Bishop said.

Becoming a highly recruited Texas high school quarterback didn't happen without early opportunities for growth. As a freshman, Henderson had to be patient and learn from then-senior quarterback Jacob Smith. Taking mental reps and learning from Smith's mistakes was a crucial part of his development. But he wasn't about to sit on the sidelines all year. Eager to contribute, Henderson took the field as a wide receiver.

"I'm one of those guys that just wants to touch the field. The competitive edge I got from going up against our senior DBs gave me all the confidence in the world," Henderson said.

Eight weeks of battling more experienced senior DBs paid off, as Henderson went for 150 yards and three touchdowns against St. John's during his freshman year.

"He made some plays for us his freshman year — going over 1,000 yards receiving — but in my mind, he was always a quarterback," Bishop said.

The confidence Coach Bishop has in his quarterback is something Henderson has felt since he was 13. It comes from a sense of familiarity — Bishop sees a lot of himself in Henderson, both

as a player and a person.

"Our stories are so similar," Bishop said.

Bishop played receiver his freshman and sophomore years at Willis High School before transitioning to quarterback. A true dual threat, he could beat defenses with his arm while extending plays with his legs — a style he carried into college and the NFL with the New England Patriots.

Henderson's journey to becoming the dynamic playmaker and University of Houston commit he is today didn't fully begin until his sophomore season. As a first-year starter at quarterback, he took a conservative approach, playing like a game manager to avoid unnecessary turnovers.

"I was just a sponge my sophomore year —

trying to gain confidence in myself and exude it to my teammates," Henderson said.

His junior season, however, became a showcase for his elusive mobility and ability to extend plays. Now entering his senior season — what he calls his "all-around year" — Henderson aims to highlight his football IQ by managing games efficiently and, when needed, making plays with his legs in true Coach Bishop fashion. Bishop isn't just his coach; he's the quarterback Henderson models his game after.

"He has something that a lot of kids across the country don't have, and that's being around someone who has played the position and been through the ups and downs," Bishop said. "Since I met him, he's been connected to my hip."



1

Keisean **HENDERSON**

Widely considered one of the top prospects in the entire class of 2026, Henderson's skills have taken off under the leadership of coach Michael Bishop.

Photo by James Leyva

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Private Schools **PREVIEW**

11-MAN

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 PLANO PRESTONWOOD	9-3	8/6
	A loaded Lions team is on the hunt for revenge		
2.	 ARGYLE LIBERTY CHRISTIAN	12-1	2/4
	Jason Witten has built the Warriors into a powerhouse		
3.	 FT. WORTH ALL SAINTS	14-0	5/7
	Reigning DII state champs have eyes on another prize		
4.	 DALLAS PARISH EPISCOPAL	9-5	5/5
	If the Panthers find another QB, they're in the mix		
5.	 AUSTIN REGENTS	11-2	7/6
	It starts up front for the Knights, who should be tough		
6.	 HOUSTON KINKAID	10-1	3/4
	SPC's best has weapons, but can the offensive line develop?		
7.	 BELLAIRE EPISCOPAL	6-4	4/4
	This team will blow past 2024's relatively ordinary season		
8.	 HOUSTON ST. JOHN'S	7-3	7/6
	This squad is surprisingly deep, which is huge at this level		
9.	 HOUSTON LEGACY	7-4	5/4
	Not everyone can claim to have one of the nation's best QBs		
10.	 DALLAS FIRST BAPTIST	12-1	6/8
	A dominant Division IV state champ is reloaded		
11.	 HOUSTON SECOND BAPTIST	11-3	6/7
	Last year's surge should pave the way for another leap		
12.	 DALLAS CHRISTIAN	11-2	7/5
	Coach Mike Wheeler is a living legend of the TXHSFB game		

6-MAN

Rank	Team	'24 Record	Starters 0/0
1.	 PASADENA FIRST BAPTIST	13-0	3/3
	Absolutely dominant: the Warriors are 48-3 since 2021		
2.	 FW COVENANT CLASSICAL	10-3	4/5
	Known for high-flying offense, the defense is great here too		
3.	 HUNTSVILLE ALPHA OMEGA	12-2	5/2
	Last year's stunning run to the title game is just the start		
4.	 PRESTONWOOD NORTH	10-3	2/4
	Quickness is the key word with this group		
5.	 HOUSTON EMERY-WEINER	9-2	5/1
	Defense will need to develop to rise back to the top		
6.	 FREDERICKSBURG HERITAGE	13-1	4/4
	After falling just short last year, they're out for revenge		
7.	 LUBBOCK KINGDOM PREP	10-2	2/2
	They'll be young, especially offensively, but dangerous		
8.	 PLANO CORAM DEO	7-5	N/A
	Expect a small step back after last year's title game run		
9.	 WACO VALOR PREP	9-4	N/A
	What a debut for the Knights; what's their encore?		
10.	 BELLVILLE FAITH	10-2	4/4
	From five wins to 10 in 2024, the arrow is pointing up		
11.	 ROCKWALL HERITAGE	10-1	5/5
	This is a senior-heavy ballclub ready to prove something		
12.	 WICHITA FALLS CHRISTIAN	13-0	1/1
	Last year's surprising state champs have reloading to do		

PRESEASON **DEFENSIVE** PLAYER of the YEAR

Obenna
Ubeh

HOUSTON
ST. THOMAS

PRESEASON COACH of the YEAR

Tim
Phillips

AUSTIN
REGENTS

PRESEASON **OFFENSIVE** PLAYER of the YEAR

Quinn
Murphy

ARGYLE LIBERTY
CHRISTIAN



Photo Courtesy Argyle Liberty Christian

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HIGH SCHOOL
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TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

TAPPS DIVISION I

Plano Prestonwood

TAPPS DIVISION II

Austin Regents

TAPPS DIVISION III

Dallas Christian

TAPPS DIVISION IV

Dallas First Baptist

SPC 4A

Houston Kinkaid

SPC 3A

Houston Christian

TCSAAL 11-MAN

Houston KIPP Sunnyside

THIL

Dallas HSAA

Three SLEEPERS

FRISCO LEGACY CHRISTIAN: LB Sam Jones leads a menacing defensive unit
SAN ANTONIO CORNERSTONE: Graduation hit 'em hard, but the Warriors reload
THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN: Last year's big leap was just the beginning

PRESEASON **DEFENSIVE** PLAYER of the YEAR

Hudson
Ramey

HUNTSVILLE
ALPHA OMEGA

PRESEASON COACH of the YEAR

Jeremy
Martin

FW COVENANT
CLASSICAL

PRESEASON **OFFENSIVE** PLAYER of the YEAR

Liam
Larsen

PASADENA
FIRST BAPTIST



Photo Courtesy Pasadena First Baptist

TEXAS FOOTBALL'S STATE PICKS

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I

Pasadena First Baptist

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II

Fort Worth Covenant Classical

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III

Fredericksburg Heritage

TCAF

Irving Faustina

TCSAAL 6-MAN

Corpus Christi Annapolis

TAIAO DI

Bulverde Gloria Deo

TAIAO DII

Lantana Harvest Christian

TAIAO DIII

San Antonio Prep

Three SLEEPERS

ABILENE CHRISTIAN: A big senior class looks to get them back on top
DIVINE SAVIOR ACADEMY: Out of Missouri City, this young program is on the rise
BRYAN CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL: They're hungry after 2024's title game loss

Private School **PREVIEWS**

Note: Teams are presented in order of predicted district finish.

TAPPS DIVISION I – District 1

PLANO PRESTONWOOD LIONS

Coach: Donnie Yantis. Lettermen R/L: 44/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/6. 2024: 10-3/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Matthew McClain (6-1, 195, 4.6), QB Luke Glass (6-5, 210, 4.9), ATH Johnathan French-Love (6-1, 175, 4.5), OL Kaleb Kozloski (6-4, 320), OL Brock Schlef (6-3, 295), LB AJ Morreale (6-2, 205, 4.6). Top juniors: LB Joshua Bengard (6-1, 210, 4.8), OL Caanan Smith (6-2, 320). Top sophomore: OL Abram Bengard (6-6, 270).

Other prospects: OL/DL Colt Hillhouse, DL Eddie Brownstein, LS Trott O'Neal, LB Gabe Tyree.

2025 notes: If it seems like Prestwood's offensive line resembles a next-level unit, well, the recruiters agree. The Lions' front features several future possible Power Four players like all-state OL Kozloski, a three-year starter in OL Schlef, a starter as a 2024 sophomore in OL Smith, and the shrimp of the bunch in 6-6, 270-pound sophomore OL Abram Bengard. They'll clear room for WR/DB McClain (1,482 yards, 17 TDs receiving) and QB Glass (2,859 yards, 30 TDs passing).

ARGYLE LIBERTY CHRISTIAN WARRIORS

Coach: Jason Witten. Lettermen R/L: 25/23. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 12-1 TAPPS DI state champion/6-0 district.

Players to watch: LB/DB Cooper Witten (6-2, 210, 4.5), QB Quinn Murphy (6-3, 200, 4.7). Top juniors: DB Lincoln McKamie (5-10, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Jayden Siebert (6-3, 280, 5.1).

2025 notes: Despite some offseason noise about Witten joining the staff of the Dallas Cowboys, the former All-Pro tight end is back for a fifth season as head coach after garnering a 38-11 record over his first four years. Unfortunately for the Warriors, most of the players from last year are not back. But the team does have some star power; LB/DB Cooper Witten, the son of the head coach, is an FBS-level star on both sides of the ball while QB Murphy (3,061 yards, 43 TDs passing) has a big arm and an even bigger presence.

DALLAS PARISH EPISCOPAL PANTHERS

Coach: Daniel Novakov. Lettermen R/L: 42/25. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 9-5/4-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jaylen Pile (6-2, 185, 4.4), RB Marcus Hanish (5-11, 190, 4.4), OL Hunter Caudill (6-2, 280, 5.0), OL Gavin Lavelle (6-4, 270), LB Jesse Richardson (6-2, 220), WR Beckham Smith (6-3, 170). Top juniors: LB/DL Rocco Bigham (6-1, 220), OL Bailey Weinatzl (6-5, 285). Top sophomore: RB Jaxon McKinney (5-9, 185).

Other prospects: DB Trip Brown, WR/DB Drew Burton, OL Andrew Lockey, DL/LB Ian Rigg, DL Benjamin Rich, WR/DB Oliver Bickel, DB Jonny Ginsburg, QB Del Storer.

2025 notes: After six consecutive trips to the state title game, playing for the biggest of trophies has become old hat for the Panthers. And they should again wear those expectations well. A talented OL led by Caudill and Lavelle looks like a team strength, RB Hanish (823 yards, 10 TDs receiving; 502 yards rushing) is a versatile threat out of the backfield, and WR/DB Pile (1,367 yards, 19 TDs receiving) is a Power Four commit who can break off a big play on any snap.

FRISCO LEGACY CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Doug Hix. Lettermen R/L: 15/14. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: LB Sam Jones (6-0, 215, 4.6), ATH

Luke Lawrence (5-11, 175, 4.6), RB/LB Jaxson Ladd (5-8, 185, 4.8), OL/DL Jaxon Dugas (6-1, 240), OL Grant Edwards (6-4, 285), WR Jack Olson (6-3, 175, 4.7). Top juniors: ATH Duke Strain (6-1, 175, 4.6), WR Christian Collins (5-10, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Jude Womack (6-4, 315).

Other prospects: K Jack Drygas, DL Bubba Barnes.

2025 notes: A veteran offensive line? Check. A proven winner at quarterback? Yup. Skill and savvy in the heart of the defense? Absolutely. The Eagles seem to have all the ingredients to soar into title contention, starting with ATH Lawrence (1,724 yards, 14 TDs passing; 553 yards, 9 TDs rushing), who will spend most of his time behind center. OL/DL Dugas, a three-year starter at guard, leads an offensive line with three returning starters, and two-time all-state LB Jones (158 tackles) is one of the best.

DALLAS BISHOP LYNCH FRIARS

Coach: Brandon Moats. Lettermen R/L: 14/20. Starters returning O/D: 6/3. 2024: 6-6/3-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Cooper Timmons (6-3, 280), TE Ishmael Muhammad (6-3, 210), DL Asher Wheatley (6-3, 245), OL Liam Bell (6-7, 290), OL Diego Chavez (6-3, 260), WR/DB Ethan Perkins (5-11, 190). Top juniors: WR/DB Nick Payne (5-9, 150), LB Alex Finley (5-11, 200).

2025 notes: The Friars will lean on plenty of size and experience in the trenches while trying to muscle their way back to the postseason. OLs Timmons, Chavez and Bell have imposing size and plenty of savvy, while DL Wheatley (48 tackles) leads a veteran defensive front. Bishop Lynch does need to find some new playmakers at the skill spots, but TE Muhammad (424 yards receiving, 7 total TDs) is a proven weapon. Look for WR/DBs Perkins and Payne to get extended snaps on offense.

FORT WORTH NOLAN CATHOLIC VIKINGS

Coach: Aaron Mattox. Lettermen R/L: 23/6. Starters returning O/D: 9/10. 2024: 2-8/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR Aaron Morales (5-9, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Jimmy Suter (5-10, 195, 4.7), WR Jake Werine (6-3, 205, 4.7), TE/LB William Terry (6-2, 210, 4.8), WR/DB Nick Koelzer (6-2, 180, 4.6), DB Brayden Meche (6-2, 185, 4.4). Top juniors: OL/DL Lucas Worth (6-2, 260, 5.1), DB Alec Andrews (6-0, 170, 4.8).

Other prospects: DB John David Mattox, DB Hunter Zenk, WR Payne Holbert, DB Phillip Porras, DL Tristan Williams, OL Andrew McDougal, OL Daniel McDougal, WR/DB Eddie de Anda.

2025 notes: Third-year coach Mattox has won just two games over his first two seasons, but he understands the lineage of Nolan, which has won seven TAPPS state championships. "The history of TAPPS 6A football runs through Nolan, and we are humbly trying to bring it back," he said. These Vikings could take a few steps toward that goal. WR Morales (917 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and RB/LB Suter (50 tackles) are part of a large and talented senior class.

ADDISON TRINITY CHRISTIAN TROJANS

Coach: Trey Haverty. Lettermen R/L: 25/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 3-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: OL Kieffer Barclay (6-1, 285, 5.2), OL Collin Kilgore (6-9, 290, 5.4), OL Aiden Coppage (6-1, 280, 5.4), DL Hudson Ingram (6-2, 190, 5.2), QB Hunter Flatt (6-5, 180, 5.0), WR Chase Griffin (6-2, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/DL Kayden Daniels (6-2, 260), DB Kapp McKelvey (5-11, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: LB/TE Walker Zolfo (5-11, 205, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Trojans aren't horsing around when it comes to the lines of scrimmage. They boast plenty of size and strength on both sides of the ball, including an offensive line led by center Barclay and tackle Kilgore, an Ivy League prospect. The defensive front looks just as stout; DT Coppage "is very hard to move" at nose guard, says first-year coach Haverty,

while DL Ingram brings the heat from the edge. QB Flatt (1,864 yards, 23 TDs) gives the team "a classic, drop-back passer.... who can see over the defense."

TAPPS DIVISION I – District 2

HOUSTON ST. THOMAS EAGLES

Coach: Raymond Davis. Lettermen R/L: 41/19. Starters returning O/D: 8/4. 2024: 7-6/5-2 district. Key losses: Blake Coogan (Rhodes College), Damarcus Batiste (Morehead State).

Players to watch: DL Obinna Umeh (6-3, 225), LB Liam McCarthy (6-0, 210), LB Jacob Quinlan (5-9, 175), WR Derek Stevenson (6-1, 180, 4.3), WR Nate Tidwell (5-10, 160), RB Javaghn Waldron (5-8, 180). Top juniors: QB Pierce Jacobson (6-0, 175), DB Logan Debose (6-0, 175). Top sophomore: TE Ben Creech (6-2, 200).

Other prospects: K Michael Taylor, OL Alex Pompilus, Vontrell Benton, DL Rylan Kimpson, DL Khairan McQueen, RB Myles Stewart, TE Hunter Sage, RJ Wilson.

2025 notes: Davis may be in his first season as head coach, but he expects his team to at least get back to the state semifinals for a fourth consecutive season. St. Thomas usually boasts a lot of depth, and that depth will be tested on the defensive side of the ball. At least the unit can lean on DL Umeh (58 tackles, 5.5 sacks), who has a wealth of college offers. LBs McCarthy (125 tackles) and Quinlan (71 tackles) also return, and track star WR Stevenson (566 yards, 6 TDs receiving) brings game-breaking speed.

SAN ANTONIO CENTRAL CATHOLIC BUTTONS

Coach: Glenn Mangold. Lettermen R/L: 29/28. Starters returning O/D: 7/4. 2024: 6-5/4-3 district.

Players to watch: DB Avin Houston (6-3, 175, 4.4), WR Jack Hall (5-9, 165, 4.5), OL David Ramirez (6-0, 250, 5.3), LB Marc Luna (5-7, 165, 4.6). Top juniors: WR Antonio Guevarra (6-3, 160, 4.6), WR Camilio Reyes-Campos (5-9, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: LB Malen Mehdi (5-10, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: QB Matt McClenan, QB Tristan Soto, RB Joseph Carreon, DB Matthew Hernandez.

2025 notes: Led by a bulldozer with quick feet in OL Ramirez, Central Catholic boasts a big, physical offensive line that should protect whomever emerges as the starting quarterback. QB McClenan may be the favorite in that battle, and he'll have some proven targets in WR Hall (452 yards, 8 TDs receiving) and Guevara (301 yards, 3 TDs receiving). The defense isn't as experienced but does welcome back DB Houston (34 tackles, 4 INTs), who is a long and lean covering machine.

SAN ANTONIO ANTONIAN APACHES

Coach: Blake Fuschak. Lettermen R/L: 24/21. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 8-3/7-0 district. Key losses: Adan Bernal, Chris Wyatt.

Players to watch: QB Rogan Parson (6-1, 190), OL/DL Drake Carr, OL Matt Samaniego, LB Jayden Nelson, OL/DL Nate Garza, WR/DB Jamail Garland. Top juniors: WR/LB Aaron Molina, WR/DB Mauricio Cantu. Top sophomore: RB/LB Mikah Mata.

Other prospects: LB Damien Cadena, OL Teddy Wyatt, WR/DB Matthew Trigo, OL Marco Brill, WR/DB Ernest Acuna, WR/DL Gerard Morales, OL/DL Aadit Kadiere, WR/DB Zach Lavin.

2025 notes: The Apaches have lost 41 seniors over the past two seasons, but they have experience where it may matter most: The offensive line and quarterback. QB Parson (2,172 yards, 31 TDs passing; 482 yards, 8 TDs rushing) earned TAPPS statewide newcomer of the year honors a year ago, and OL/DL Carr, OL Samaniego and OL/DL Garza all return up front for the offense. Now, Antonian just needs to develop some weapons around Parson to ensure another playoff appearance.

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TOMBALL CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CRUSADERS

Coach: Willie Amendola. Lettermen R/L: 24/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 7-4/4-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jaxon Coleman (5-10, 175, 4.5), LB Joe Beverly (6-0, 205, 4.7), RB Malik Liberty (5-10, 180, 4.6), LB Connor Reynard (5-10, 165, 4.6), OL Brody Clark (6-3, 300, 5.5), RB/DB Carson Clark (5-8, 150, 4.4). Top juniors: DL Reid Kelley (5-9, 220, 5.2), QB Ryan Neidigk (5-9, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Grayson Clary, WR/DB Cody Cutrer, OL Will Canovas, OL Brooks Morin, LB Aiden Turner.

2025 notes: The Crusaders will lean heavily on a veteran defense, especially early in the season as a young offense finds their stride. WR/DB Coleman returns in the secondary after earning all-state honors as a sophomore in 2024, and physical LB Beverly provides senior leadership in the middle. On offense, look for RB Liberty to carry a heavy load after averaging 5.6 yards per carry a year ago. RB/DB Clark could provide a nice complement with his 4.4 speed.

AUSTIN ST. MICHAEL'S WARRIORS

Coach: Phil Rombach. Lettermen R/L: 38/8. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 8-3/5-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Nico Anderson (6-1, 185), WR/DB Andres Patino (5-10, 165), WR/DB Pierce Kovacs (6-0, 185), OL/DL Danny Smith (5-10, 225), DB Jacob Garcia (5-10, 165), WR/DB Adrian Peradoza II (5-10, 175). Top juniors: TE/LB Brady Morris (6-0, 200), RB/DB Rhone Goldberg (5-10, 165). Top sophomore: OL/DL Joseph Logan (6-1, 225).

Other prospects: OL/DL Dominic Rositas, OL/DL Sean Chavez, WR Nash Flammang, WR/DB Ian Quinn, OL/DL Mark Young, WR/DL George Ramirez, DB Zae Mack, TE/LB Dylan Strait.

2025 notes: The return of QB Anderson (2,317 yards, 20 TDs passing) and one of his favorite targets from last season in WR Patino (572 yards, 4 TDs receiving) should help keep the offense humming. The Warriors need to break in a new running back, but OL/DL Smith leads a veteran offensive front that should clear some holes. WR/DB Kovacs (57 tackles) has a good nose for the ball and paces the defense.

HOUSTON ST. PIUS X PANTHERS

Coach: Shaun Stephens. Lettermen R/L: n/a. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 3-8.

Players to watch: ATH Trey Finney (5-9, 175), ATH Amir Parks-Brooks (5-7, 160), LB Marcos Solais Jr. (6-2, 210), QB Noah Carrasco (6-0, 195), DB Deondre Gordon-Brown (5-10, 180). Top juniors: LB Andrew Kirklin (5-10, 180), DL Amuri Sikes (6-3, 210). Top sophomore: ATH Jonas Boone (5-7, 155).

Other prospects: WR Jerrel Moore, OL Miles Harper, DB Kendall Jones, OL/LB Travis Tilly, LB Peter Green, ATH Asiah Peavy, OL Carter Ludwig, WR Mason Brown.

2025 notes: Just a sophomore, dynamic ATH Finney already has more than 10 FBS offers and will key a potent Panther attack. Finney has plenty of playmaking company; Stephens says ATH Parks-Brooks "can take any catch or rush to the house," and QB Carrasco (1,854 yards, 20 TDs passing) boasts a strong arm and quick feet. The defense seems solid, too, with all-state LB Solais setting a physical tone inside. On the back end, speedy DB Gordon-Brown is one of the best covermen in the league.

AUSTIN ST. DOMINIC SAVIO EAGLES

Coach: Malcom Brown. Lettermen R/L: 20/4. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 1-9/0-6 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL/LB Luke Reeb, WR/K Patrick Engesser, ATH Gus Brown, WR Zach Oppel. Top juniors: RB/LB Ethan Ubias, RB/LB Jaden Nguyen. Top sophomore: QB Everett Borden.

2025 notes: Brown, a former All-American defensive tackle at Texas who became a Super Bowl cham-

pion with the New England Patriots, says toughness and tenacity key the growth of his program. He says "the guys that have bought into our team philosophy make this team special. They push themselves and their team to be their best." The Eagles will get a big push from RB/LB Ubias and TE/DL/LB Reeb, two physical players on the edge with high motors.

TAPPS DIVISION I - Independent

EL PASO CATHEDRAL IRISH

Coach: Hristo Gonzalez. Lettermen R/L: 15/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 4-5/independent.

Players to watch: WR/DB Miguel Selbach (5-8, 160, 4.5), TE/DB Ian McCollum (6-1, 190, 4.6), RB/DB Kevin Flores (5-8, 180, 4.5), WR/DB Shane English (5-9, 165, 4.6), RB/LB Pedro Chavez (5-7, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: RB/LB David Monks (5-6, 175, 4.7), OL/DL Jorge Avila (5-10, 260, 5.2). Top sophomore: QB Jacob Llamas (5-9, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL/DL Hendrik Morales, OL/DL Cade Nelan, OL/DL Jacob Mesta.

2025 notes: There are a lot of young players that will have to fill key roles after graduation took a toll, but Gonzalez prefers to look at the positives. "We are hungry to prove ourselves," he said, while conceding that "we have a lot of young players that are going to need to step up." Those youngsters include juniors such as RB/LB Monks and QB Llamas, who will see more snaps. The Irish do have some proven playmakers on defense, especially in the secondary with WR/DB Selbach and TE/DB McCollum.

TAPPS DIVISION II - District 1

FORT WORTH ALL SAINTS SAINTS

Coach: Aaron Beck. Lettermen R/L: 38/20. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 14-0 TAPPS DII state champion/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR Hudson Reasor (6-4, 210, 4.5), QB Gavin Beard (6-0, 200, 4.6), LB Keyon Adkins (6-0, 185, 4.5), DL Kingston Beyer (6-2, 260, 4.8), RB Bourke Toler (6-1, 190, 4.5), DB Dean Watkins (5-9, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: DL/LB Ryan Powers (6-4, 200, 4.6), OL Barrett Bray (6-3, 280). Top sophomore: LB Jet Thomas (6-1, 200).

Other prospects: OL Corbin Noyola, OL Drew Edmonds, DB Felix Barron, DL Gatlin Gerhard, DL Hudson Harbuck, WR Gabe Sterling, WR/KR Keylan Lemen, TE Jake Powers.

2025 notes: Beck has been winning games at All Saints for 23 years, but last season's squad may have been the best of the bunch. Six players depart for Division I college programs, but the cupboard is far from bare. QB Beard, an Alamo transfer, threw for 2,629 yards and 36 TDs a year ago and has a proven weapon in WR Reasor (535 yards, 5 TDs receiving). The defensive front seven looks stout with DT Beyer (52 tackles), and OL Bray should lead another strong offensive line.

FORT WORTH CHRISTIAN CARDINALS

Coach: Brady Gunn. Lettermen R/L: 27/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/7. 2024: 8-4/3-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Tucker Ashford (6-4, 250, 4.5), QB Landon Gigliotta (6-0, 195, 4.5), OL/DL Adam Berns (6-5, 255, 4.9), WR Kade Kropholler (6-0, 185, 4.4). Top juniors: WR/DB Luke Stevens (6-1, 180, 4.6), WR Bo Pearson (6-1, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Kason Anding, OL Ryan Kaase.

2025 notes: Simply put, there aren't many players at the TAPPS level like TE/DL Ashford (48 tackles, 8.5 sacks), a fearsome physical presence on both sides of the ball who commands help with every pass rush. There also aren't many QBs in TAPPS like Gigliotta (2,842 yards, 28 TDs passing), a veteran dual threat who knows Gunn's offense. While the defense looks

formidable, the offense has to rebuild its offensive line behind OL/DL Berns, a long and athletic tackle on offense and edge rusher on defense.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN MUSTANGS

Coach: Phil Dawson. Lettermen R/L: 25/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/10. 2024: 6-6/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Rowdy Pearce (6-4, 285, 5.0), LB Brady Young (5-11, 200, 4.6), DL Isaiah Mathews (6-3, 240, 4.7), DB Cutter Smith (5-10, 165, 4.6), LB Coy Hayes (5-10, 190, 4.8), DL Angel Villafranco (6-1, 260, 5.1). Top juniors: DB Caleb Cruz (6-0, 185, 4.4), RB Stacy Jones (5-11, 165, 4.5). Top sophomore: K Andrew Buckingham (6-0, 165, 4.9).

Other prospects: LB Cadyn Bishop, WR Jarrett Stockstill, DL Jaxon Jones, DB Cesar Gutierrez, DL Xander Cuellar, DL Price Louder, OL Isaac Lujan, OL Jansen Green.

2025 notes: Phil Dawson, the former NFL kicker, takes over as head coach after a successful stint at Austin Hyde Park. LB Young (146 tackles) boasts sideline-to-sideline speed and serves as an on-field coach while DL Mathews (81 tackles, six sacks) has an explosive first step on the edge. DB Smith (101 tackles), a multi-sport star, adds to the wealth of riches on defense. Whoever takes over at quarterback will be protected by OL Pearce, an elite left tackle.

GRAPEVINE FAITH CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Mike Fuller. Lettermen R/L: 24/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Noah Smith (6-0, 185, 4.5), QB Austin Cosby (5-11, 170, 4.9), OL/DL Austin Odette (6-4, 240, 5.0), LB Corbin Irwin (5-10, 210, 4.7), WR/DB Charlie Bunch (6-1, 175, 4.6), LB Jackson Walker (5-8, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Bear Couch (6-2, 250, 5.1), RB/WR Jace Walker (5-8, 160, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/DB Jackson Awalt (5-10, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Jensen Anthony, OL/DL Slade Corley, RB/DB Anthony Sal, DB Tyler Brown, RB/LB Lucca Lovera, WR/DB/K Clark Lemmerman, DB Canon Hunter.

2025 notes: Fuller takes over the program, and he likes what he sees after a strong offseason. WR/DB Smith (1,200 yards, 15 TDs receiving) thrives on contested catches, QB Cosby (2,773 yards, 26 TDs passing) brings plenty of senior savvy, and LBs Irwin (41 tackles) and Walker (45 tackles) lead a strong linebacking unit. The biggest concern for Fuller? The new coach says the team must develop its depth on both lines of scrimmage.

LUBBOCK TRINITY CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Riley White. Lettermen R/L: 20/17. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 3-7/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Deacon Highley (5-9, 205, 4.8), RB/DB Joshua Moreno (5-9, 175, 4.6), LB Blake Mandy (6-1, 190, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Dawson Ashley (6-3, 175, 4.6).

2025 notes: Lots of speed at the skill spots and more depth should help the Lions in their second season in TAPPS Division II. That speed starts in the backfield with RB/LB Highley and RB/DB Moreno, who both showed plenty of open-field burst last season. WR/DB Ashley also returns after an impressive sophomore season, and he can use his length to make plays downfield. White said melding together both lines of scrimmage will be an emphasis in the summer.

TAPPS DIVISION II - District 2

AUSTIN REGENTS KNIGHTS

Coach: Tim Phillips. Lettermen R/L: 25/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 11-2/7-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Jack Devine (6-2, 200, 4.8), DB Drew Novy (6-0, 175, 4.6), DL Charlie Burton (6-3,

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250, 5.0), WR/KR Blake Smith (5-7, 165, 4.6), WR Kade Millington (6-1, 180, 4.6), OL Hayes Contine (6-3, 255, 5.4). Top juniors: DB Braylon Compton (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL Diego Romero (6-1, 225, 5.3). Top sophomore: OL Truman Hill (6-5, 250, 5.4).

Other prospects: ATH Colin Angelo, WR Kellan Millington.

2025 notes: Regents, one of the state's blue-blood parochial programs, has a solid foundation. The program has 21 coaches, most of whom volunteer, and has won more than 90% of its games over the past decade. Expect more of the same, especially with solid lines of scrimmage led by DL Burton (53 tackles) and OL Contine. QB Devine (2,406 yards, 34 TDs; 530 yards, 12 TDs rushing) is a next-level player and dual threat who powers the offense.

TYLER GRACE COMMUNITY CHARGERS

Coach: Tim Russell. Lettermen R/L: 19/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-4/4-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Cole Stanley (6-3, 195, 4.4), RB Bradon Alexander (6-2, 235, 4.6), ATH Doak Porter (6-3, 195, 4.5), LB Andrew Gardner (6-0, 225, 4.7), DB Elijah Hicks (5-10, 160, 4.5), OL Brayden Wells (6-2, 255, 5.5). Top juniors: LB Bruhn Henry (5-9, 190, 4.6), DL Mac Gautier (6-1, 205, 4.7). Top sophomore: OL Luke Anderson (6-3, 225, 4.8).

Other prospects: ATH Dylan Stinson, OL/DL Gercaleb Gossett, RB/DL Ayle Hecht, WR/DB Justus McQuay, OL Conner Chaney, OL Jay Pillsbury, ATH Christian Henry, ATH Turbo Fenton.

2025 notes: A nice mix of veteran savvy and youthful energy should keep the Chargers in the playoff mix, says Russell. ATH Stanley (78 tackles) is an "all-around stud" who enters his final season as one of the team's leaders. Classmate ATH Porter (32 tackles, 3 INTs) returns for his fourth varsity season and joins Stanley as a veteran voice on and off the field. RB Alexander (892 yards, 9 TDs), a sophomore, looks like the future of the program.

BULLARD BROOK HILL GUARD

Coach: Scott Ryle. Lettermen R/L: 29/16. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 6-5/4-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Zachary Ryle (6-4, 210, 4.9), DB Blake Whitten (5-10, 165, 4.8), TE Cole Schlueter (6-2, 200, 4.7), OL/DL Luke Scott (6-1, 230, 5.1), LB Hayden Watson (5-10, 190, 5.0), WR/DB Giovanni Orrico (5-8, 160, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Danger Troy (5-10, 188, 4.9), WR/LB Brex Boddy (6-0, 170, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR Casper Hansen (5-11, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: Ezra Guba, RB Grant Gandy, TE Reece Barter.

2025 notes: The Guard must replace 16 seniors from last season, but coach Ryle says a strong crop of sophomores should develop as the season wears on. That sophomore class includes promising QB Ryle (335 yards, 6 TDs passing), who has good size and a big arm. Brook Hill can lean on a stout run defense keyed by LBs Watson and Troy, and TE Schlueter could develop into a downfield threat even while splitting time at defensive edge.

AUSTIN BRENTWOOD CHRISTIAN BEARS

Coach: Kyle Maxfield. Lettermen R/L: 17/9. Starters returning O/D: 6-6. 2024: 5-5/2-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Brayden Jennings (6-1, 200, 4.6), WR/DB Zach Czerlinsky (5-11, 180, 4.6), LB Esteban Gutierrez (5-10, 200, 4.7), WR/DB Gabe Washington (5-10, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Trey Campbell (5-9, 160, 4.5), WR/DB Jack Hansen (5-10, 160, 4.7). Top juniors: WR/DB Levi Baron (5-9, 150, 4.6), OL/DL Sam Moore (5-9, 225, 5-10). Top sophomore: LB Hudson Border (5-10, 180, 4.8).

Other prospects: RB/DL Luke Weed.

2025 notes: The Bears boast a wealth of skill players, starting with QB Jennings (1,042 yards, 12

TDs passing), who's entering his third year as the starter. He'll get the ball to the multi-talented WR/DB Czerlinsky (641 yards, 10 TDs receiving; 100 tackles), an instinctive and tough competitor on both sides of the ball. The defensive back seven also looks like a strength with LB Gutierrez (77 tackles) and speedy WR/DB Campbell. The Bears' biggest summer priority may be developing both lines.

ARLINGTON GRACE PREP LIONS

Coach: Chad Pegues. Lettermen R/L: 15/11. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2023: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL James McKinney (6-2, 285, 5.4), OL/DL Kolby McLean (6-3, 220, 5.0), WR/DB Daniel Keck (5-9, 170, 4.6), OL/DL Colt Howard (5-10, 225), WR/P Jacon Wambsganss (6-2, 175, 4.7), QB/LB Jaxon Bryson (6-2, 185, 4.8). Top juniors: WR/DB Carter Smith (5-9, 165), RB Noah Bonjour (5-8, 170, 4.5). Top sophomore: RB/LB Simon Thomas.

Other prospects: OL/DL Jackson Demond, WR/DB Jesse Zimmerman, K Josiah Garrett, OL/DL Greyson Wisenart, OL/DL Max Whaley, TE/LB Sawyer Jordan, RB/LB Josh Ellis, LS Brooks Franklin.

2025 notes: What Pegues describes as "some great, God-fearing football players" didn't strike much fear in their opponents' hearts last season, but the Lions look poised for a rebound. They boast some veteran, physical players on both sides of the line of scrimmage such as OL/DLs Howard, McLean and McKinney. QB/LB Bryson could have a breakout season behind center. If young players such as RB Bonjour continue to develop, Grace Prep could indeed have some good days.

TAPPS DIVISION II - District 3

BROWNSVILLE ST. JOSEPH BLOODHOUNDS

Coach: Tino Villarreal. Lettermen R/L: 15/13. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 10-2/3-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Gavin Cisneros (6-2, 180, 4.6), RB/DB Andre Cristiano (5-9, 175, 4.7), OL Jesus Osio (6-2, 260, 5.1), DL Reid Starkey (6-4, 195). Top juniors: LB Leo Hernandez (5-8, 170), DL John Aguilar (5-11, 225). Top sophomore: WR Tunde Siyanbade (6-4, 190).

Other prospects: WR/K Ezequiel Escamilla, WR Izzy Cano.

2025 notes: The Bloodhounds only have about 20 players on the varsity roster, but 11-year coach Villarreal expects them to sniff out another postseason spot. Plenty of key playmakers return, including QB Cisneros (1,686 yards, 14 TDs passing; 858 yards, 9 TDs rushing) and RB/DB Cristiano (610 yards, 9 TDs rushing). The coach admits that his team needs to rebuild both lines if it hopes to defend its district title, but OL Osio and DL Starkey (39 tackles) are good building blocks.

SAN ANTONIO CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Austin Smithey. Lettermen R/L: 35/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 6-5/2-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Sloan Guillory (6-4, 205, 4.9), OL Elijah Brown (6-4, 255), LB Lance Malin (6-1, 185, 4.7), RB/LB Ethan Young (5-9, 175, 4.8), DL Zach Griffin (5-8, 185, 4.7), LB Spenser Hansen (6-0, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: LB Riggs Barth (6-0, 190, 4.9), WR/DB Mitchell Talley (5-8, 150, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/QB/DB Ben Allen (5-11, 155, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/DB Will Harrison, WR Blaise Moberg, WR/DB Aaron Albrecht, OL Bauer Crawford, OL Luke Potts, QB/DB Chris Kelly, WR Owen Marino, RB/LB James Johnson.

2025 notes: With a massive senior class, four returners to the offensive line led by a three-year starting tackle in Brown and a talented defense, Smithey thinks his team can make some noise in the playoffs. QB Guillory (1,220 yards, 10 TDs passing; 457 yards, 7 TDs rushing) "will be a big-time player." The defense

has plenty of big-time players such as first-team all-district LB Malin (90 tackles, 3 sacks) and three-year starting DL Griffin (73 tackles).

VICTORIA ST. JOSEPH FLYERS

Coach: Jacob Vasquez. Lettermen R/L: 16/12. Starters returning O/D: 8/9. 2024: 6-5/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Dedric Callis (5-8, 180, 4.8), OL/DL Jackson Pogue (6-0, 245, 5.3), OL/DL Cooper Preiss (6-0, 260, 5.5), WR/DB Curry Elkins (6-1, 170, 4.7). Top juniors: TE/LB Nick Bludau (6-5, 185, 4.9), ATH Charlie Stefka (6-3, 180, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL/DL Jamari Johnson (6-0, 295, 5.6).

Other prospects: QB/DB Jace Vasquez, DL Isiah Padierna, RB/DL Mason de Montenal, RB/DB Aiden Hamilton, K George Osuchukwu.

2025 notes: It usually takes a full year to adapt to the slot-T offense, and second-year coach Vasquez thinks the Flyers are ready to, well, fly into 2025. RB/LB Callis (879 yards, 10 TDs rushing) will serve as the workhorse in the run-based offense, and versatile ATH Stefka (59 tackles) will get his share of touches on offense and also anchor the defense. Vasquez also loves the potential of TE/LB Bludau (59 tackles), a lanky athlete with room to grow, who will serve as the top downfield threat in the passing game.

SAN ANTONIO ST. ANTHONY'S YELLOWJACKETS

Coach: Justin Humphries. Lettermen R/L: 8/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 5-5/0-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Derrick Romero Jr. (6-0, 175), DB Victor Rosales (5-10, 190), OL/DL Isaiah Reynosa (6-2, 225), DB Xavier Gonzalez (5-10, 170), LB John-David Carmona (5-8, 185).

2025 notes: QB Romero returns to run the Yellowjackets' pro-style offense, and there's certainly some buzz on campus considering the proven talent surrounding the quarterback. The offensive line looks particularly stout with physical OL/DL Reynosa leading the group. In St. Anthony's 4-2-5 defense, a strong secondary is mandatory. DBs Rosales and Gonzalez lead the group, and they're particularly effective against the run. LB Carmona leads the defensive front.

TAPPS DIVISION II - District 4

HOUSTON SECOND BAPTIST EAGLES

Coach: Beck Brydon. Lettermen R/L: 27/15. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 11-3/5-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Canon Toon (6-3, 200, 4.5), RB Langston Davis (5-10, 210, 4.7), DL Kelvin Baptiste (5-9, 250, 4.8), WR Allen Thomas (5-10, 165, 4.6), DL Enoc Lemus (5-10, 255, 5.2), WR Jordan Jones (6-1, 175, 4.6). Top juniors: DB Peyton Jones, OL Griffin Lewis.

2025 notes: Brydon has gone 216-57 in a long career with multiple state titles, with most of that success coming at Austin Regents. Now in his third season in Houston, it seems like Brydon has Second Baptist on the same track. QB Toon returns as the heady and athletic linchpin for the offense while RB Davis and WRs Thomas and Jones form a dangerous trio of playmakers. The offense will need OL Lewis to emerge as a leader up front. On defense, DLs Baptiste and Lemus form a dangerous tandem in the trenches.

THE WOODLANDS CHRISTIAN WARRIORS

Coach: Kolby Hull. Lettermen R/L: 37/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/7. 2024: 8-4/3-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Santiago Fernandez (6-3, 205, 4.5), DL Prince Holiday (6-2, 260, 4.8), RB/DB Brayden Hinote (5-10, 180, 4.5), DL Blake Hollas (6-3, 350, 4.8), DB Joey Orr (5-11, 155, 4.7), DB Grant Muzny (5-11, 185, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/DL Hayden Bennett (6-2, 230, 5.0), OL Derek Abbey (6-3, 285, 5.4). Top sophomore: WR/RB

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Baron Meachem (5-9, 175, 4.4).

Other prospects: WR Landon Ho, WR Julio Fernandez, WR Luke Benson, LB Carter Long, DB Colby Cheatham, LB Hank Muhlbauer, OL Vincent Lange, OL James Sweger.

2025 notes: Not only will a veteran Warriors bunch be contending for "the district title," says Hull, but "we'll be contending to play for a state championship." Such optimism starts with QB Fernandez (2,475 yards, 29 TDs passing; 1,353 yards, 13 TDs rushing), a heady signal caller with great size and speed who can sling the ball. RB Ellis (957 yards, 12 TDs rushing) keeps defenses honest. Defensively, DL Holiday (75 tackles, 8 sacks) anchors a stout front seven.

FORT BEND CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Ben Hoffmeier. Lettermen R/L: 25/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 8-5/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Blake Hamilton, DL Jonah Kalu, QB Kole Whiddon, DL Trace Holster, LB Will Kipp. Top juniors: OL/DL Joshua Ochelli, OL/DL Brady Poss. Top sophomore: LB Gio Gonzalez.

Other prospects: DB AJ Shell, WR/DB Tramon Williams Jr., K/P Mario Gonzalez, RB/DB Patrick Wadlington.

2025 notes: Hoffmeier took over the program in the offseason, and he already likes what he sees. "Our boys like to be physical and play smash mouth football," he said. "This isn't the case for every private school." While the Eagles need to retool the offensive line, the skill players look dynamic. WR/DB Hamilton (1,136 yards, 15 TDs; 8 INTs) does it all, and QB Whiddon (932 yards passing, 642 yards rushing, 20 total TDs) "is a true dual threat not afraid to tuck it and run," Hoffmeier said.

HOUSTON LUTHERAN SOUTH PIONEERS

Coach: Corby Meekins. Lettermen R/L: 18/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/9. 2024: 6-5/2-3 district.

Players to watch: QB Braeden Robinson (5-11, 180, 4.5), RB/DB Aja Bradford (6-0, 195, 4.5), RB/LB Cade Griffin (5-10, 200, 4.7), ATH Josh Pippin (5-10, 190, 4.5), TE/DL Hank Hughes (6-2, 205, 4.7), WR/DB Elijah Brown (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL Troy Gonzalez (5-11, 220), OL/DL Bradley Whitehead (5-10, 220). Top sophomore: QB/DB Max Saldana (5-9, 170).

Other prospects: QB Holt Teichman, OL/DL Robert Rutledge, OL/DL Laydn Heinemann, WR/DB Edric Jasmine, WR/DB Noah Harris, OL/DL Charles Cortes, LB/RB Chris Green, TE/DL Parker Pfeiffer.

2025 notes: The Pioneers welcome back WR/DB Robinson (971 yards, 7 TDs receiving), an all-state player on both sides of the ball and the defending district MVP. But Robinson certainly isn't a one-man show, especially on a loaded defense. RB/DB Bradford (379 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 91 tackles) also earned all-state honors on defense, and RB/LB Griffin (432 yards, 8 TDs rushing; 111 tackles) sets a physical tone on both sides of the ball.

BEAUMONT KELLY BULLDOGS

Coach: Michael Long. Lettermen R/L: 22/8. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 1-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Casey Reedy (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR/RB Eshawn Hollman (5-8, 160, 4.5), LB Sam Bevilacqua (5-11, 195, 4.7), LB Cade Berry (6-0, 205, 4.7), LB Jackson Maloney (6-1, 180, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Lathan Weaver.

2025 notes: A special sort of team chemistry could do wonders for the Bulldogs this season, says Long. So will lots of experience, starting with a returning set of LBs that includes Berry (84 tackles), Bevilacqua (83 tackles) and Maloney (75 tackles). QB Reedy (1,240 yards passing) garnered valuable experience as a sophomore and looks ready for a big junior season. He'll lean heavily on RB/WR Hollman (380 yards receiving).

TAPPS DIVISION III — District 1

LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Chris Softley. Lettermen R/L: 24/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-2/4-0 district.

Players to watch: OL Major Tucker (6-4, 245, 5.2), WR Keaton Lee (6-3, 170, 4.8).

2025 notes: Softley has won 89 games in his decade at the school, and he explains such prolonged success by saying "we beat all teams we should and half the teams we shouldn't." They'll be expected to again win most of their games based on the quality of returning players. OL Tucker, the team's left tackle, is all-state on the field and in the classroom and graded out at 87% last season with 17 pancakes. He has some all-state company in WR Lee (1,090 yards, 17 TDs receiving).

COLLEYVILLE COVENANT COUGARS

Coach: Joey Phillips. Lettermen R/L: 21/9. Starters returning O/D: 3/5. 2024: 8-5/3-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Ndi Etta (6-2, 210, 4.8), ATH Grant Kruse (5-10, 175, 4.6), DB Lucas Wallace, DL Timmy Castello, WR Max McIlhane, OL/DL Scott Hataway. Top juniors: LB Zach Dixon. Top sophomore: QB/LB Jonah Williamson.

2025 notes: Phillips takes over as the head man for a proud program with three state championships since starting up in 2000. A fierce defensive front seven could help the Cougars claw their way into contention for a fourth; LB Etta (81 tackles, 9.5 sacks) holds multiple FBS offers, and all-state DL Castello broke out as a sophomore in 2024 and leads a talented line. The Cougars' offense will need a big year from ATH Kruse, a versatile senior who has played all over the field in his career but will likely focus on running the ball in 2025.

FORT WORTH LAKE COUNTRY EAGLES

Coach: Wade Whites. Lettermen R/L: 32/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/9. 2024: 6-6/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Ryan Whites (5-11, 170, 4.4), QB/DB Timothy Wright (6-2, 180, 4.5), OL/DL Max Smiley (6-0, 195, 4.6). Top juniors: RB/LB Antonio Hernandez (6-0, 295, 4.7), OL/DL William Grijalva (5-10, 215, 4.9). Top sophomore: RB/LB Clint Cannon (5-9, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB/LB Jaxon Bohler, ATH Sam Foley, WR/LB Colby Boyd, RB/LB Abe Kercheval, WR/DL Grayson West, OL/DL Ethan Guzman.

2025 notes: Wade Whites, the son of legendary high school football coach Gary Whites, has carried on the family legacy with 98 wins in 17 seasons leading the Eagles. Speaking of family, WR/DB Ryan Whites (939 yards, 17 TDs receiving; 48 tackles, 7 INTs) is a big play waiting to happen in all three facets of the game. The team also has a veteran QB in Wright (2,008 yards, 24 TDs passing) and solid line play, led by OL/DL Smiley (68 tackles, 12 sacks).

ARLINGTON PANTEGO PANTHERS

Coach: Jeff Kemp. Lettermen R/L: 32/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 7-4/6-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Micah Harber (5-10, 175, 4.7), OL Alex Warren (5-11, 205, 5.0), QB Hayes Young (6-3, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Brendan Osborne (5-11, 220, 4.9), LB Alex Villiarimo (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Colton Coleman (6-3, 195, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR Landry Kemp (5-7, 130, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Carson Brook, DB Jet Tijerina, DL Trevor Van Dorf, TE Ayden Bingham.

2025 notes: The Panthers may be young this season, but they have "an eagerness and attitude to get better every day." The youth movement features QB Young, a sophomore dual threat who can move the chains. His classmates include WR Landry Kemp (28 catches, 400 yards receiving) and RB Brook (200 yards rushing) - both impressed as freshmen. Of course, the team also

has a few senior leaders to lean on like versatile RB/DB Harber and OL Warren, the left tackle.

WILLOW PARK TRINITY CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Scott Campbell. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: N/A. 2024: 2-8.

Players to watch: RB Owen Coates, RB Pearson Kuykendall, LB Brogan Chapman, DL Rhyder Dawson, ATH Patrick Gullatt, DL Kadin James, P Caleb Hart, LB Luke Hernandez, DB Marshall Hughes, OL Christian Valdez.

2025 notes: Campbell takes over at Willow Park, and expectations are high that he can get them back on solid footing — he has six years of head coaching experience at Luling and Clyde, plus tenure on Flower Mound's staff. He inherits a team with a pair of hard-charging backs in Coates and Kuykendall, and ATH Gullatt will be moved all around. The defense will rely on strength up the middle in the form of LB Chapman and DL Dawson. It's a top-heavy district, but if the defense can develop, the Eagles could turn some heads.

TAPPS DIVISION III — District 2

DALLAS CHRISTIAN CHARGERS

Coach: Mike Wheeler. Lettermen R/L: 30/12. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 11-2 TAPPS DIII state champion/5-0 district. Key losses: Gary Jefferson III (Air Force), Luke Carney (Syracuse).

Players to watch: ATH DJ Stanley (5-11, 280, 4.4), RB/LB Jaxon Barr (6-0, 210, 4.6), RB/LB Jack Lemmond (5-11, 205, 4.6), OL Jake Baker (6-6, 285, 5.3), OL/DL Luke Small (6-3, 220, 5.0), OL/DL Gage Dean (5-11, 260, 5.1). Top juniors: OL Brody Woodlee (6-3, 300, 5.3), OL/DL Shawn Smith (6-1, 280, 5.3). Top sophomore: WR/DB Dylan Belt (5-11, 175, 4.5).

Other prospects: OL/LB Andrew Solis, K/P Matthew Neuwirt, RB/LB Jordan Trejo, TE/LB Ethan Hendricks, WR/DB Eli Harvey, QB/DB Luke Syvrud, ATH Isaiah Lane, RB/DL Cole Crain.

2025 notes: Wheeler has been racking up the wins with the Chargers for more than three decades and boasts a career record of 334-84. Expect more of the same this year with an experienced and imposing offensive line led by towering OL Baker, an all-state player a year ago. The team needs to find a new starter at quarterback but has explosive weapons in ATH Stanley and RB/LB Barr. RB/LB Lemmond teams with two-way starter Barr to lead the defense.

DALLAS COVENANT KNIGHTS

Coach: Jacob Zinn. Lettermen R/L: 25/6. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 8-4/4-1 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Connor Evans (6-2, 275), WR/LB Duke Black (5-10, 160), OL/DL Mac Mezger (6-1, 215), RB/LB Davis Kerlin (6-0, 210), RB/DB Jack Henry Blakeslee (5-8, 150). Top juniors: OL/LB/DS Caden Kobza (6-0, 170), WR/DB Whitman Rainold (6-1, 185). Top sophomore: QB Ryan Hillner (5-9, 160).

2025 notes: If young QB Hillner can develop into an effective varsity starter as a sophomore, the Knights could make another playoff run. OL/DLs Evans (60 tackles, 9.5 sacks) and Mezger (43 tackles, 8.5 sacks) anchor solid lines on both sides of the ball, and versatile WR/DB Black (483 yards receiving, 86 tackles) already has six defensive TDs in a remarkable varsity career. RB/LB Kerlin (278 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 100 tackles) is yet another senior leader.

DALLAS SHELTON CHARGERS

Coach: Ed Barry. Lettermen R/L: 30/14. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 7-4/3-2 district.

Players to watch: OL/LB Anthony Coppolino (5-10, 185), QB Heston Dios (5-11, 175), RB/DB Owen Myers (5-10, 170). Top juniors: OL/DL Ryder Wiedenbaker (6-2,

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290), WR Tristan Elfarr (5-10, 160). Top sophomore: WR Zane Fogel (6-0, 180).

Other prospects: LB Brock Rogers, K Jackson Le-lash, WR/DB Isaac Kornbluth.

2025 notes: The bad news? The Chargers lose the bulk of their production in the running game as well as some key offensive linemen. The good news? A second year in the wing-T offense led to a strong offseason, which should help Shelton find a rhythm, even with a few new faces. The team will lean heavily on OL/LB Coppolino (54 tackles), a two-way starter and locker-room leader. OL/DL Wiedenbaker looks even better after starting as a sophomore.

TYLER ALL SAINTS TROJANS

Coach: Kyle Freeman. Lettermen R/L: 17/4. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 6-6/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Sawyer Buske (5-9, 165, 4.8), RB/DB Emerson Hadnot (5-9, 190, 4.7), QB Manny Mizer (6-4, 215, 5.0), WR/DB Tate Scully (5-10, 150, 4.8), RB/LB Sam Walters (5-10, 175, 4.9), RB/LB Nate Mienk (5-11, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Bobby Arthur (6-1, 240, 5.3), WR/DB Ford Fitzgerald (5-9, 150, 4.9). Top sophomore: WR/DB John Tompkins (5-10, 155, 5.1).

Other prospects: TE/LB Karson King, TE/LB Cole Phillips, WR/DB Reagan Ford, OL/DL Bryce Goedeke.

2025 notes: Freeman made a big impact at the school in his first season at All Saints, and he's optimistic that the Trojans can take even more strides in Year 2. It helps to have a proven set of skill players, led by QB Mizer (1,081 yards, 11 TDs passing; 355 yards rushing). He'll get the ball to WR/DB Buske (584 yards, 9 TDs receiving) and RB/DB Hadnot (748 yards, 10 TDs rushing). Defensively, the Trojans will lean on RB/LB Walters (61 tackles, 7.5 sacks) and WR/DB Scully.

TYLER T. K. GORMAN CRUSADERS

Coach: Ed Burns. Lettermen R/L: 15/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 3-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: OL Andy Mugleston (6-5, 275, 5.1), DL Curtis Barlow (6-3, 225, 4.8), RB/DB Lincoln Vanderhorst (5-8, 155, 4.7), K Jack Coan (6-1, 150). Top juniors: DB Sam Vogler (6-0, 155, 4.7), LB Roberto Lozano (5-9, 190).

Other prospect: DL KaMauri Alford.

2025 notes: The Crusaders will never have the most numbers, but Burns says his players embrace taking on whatever roles needed to get the wins. There may be more victories this season, too, based on the progression TK Gorman has made in two seasons under Burns. OL Mugleston and DL Barlow (75 tackles) give the team senior leadership in the trenches, and RB/DB Vanderhorst (640 yards rushing, 64 tackles) makes plays on both sides of the ball. K Coan (23-26 PATs, 5-6 FGs) is a special teams weapon.

TAPPS DIVISION III – District 3

SAN ANTONIO HOLY CROSS KNIGHTS

Coach: Michael Harrison. Lettermen R/L: 38/18. Starters returning O/D: 4/3. 2024: 13-1/5-0 district.

Players to watch: TE/RB/LB AJ Eguia (6-0, 210, 4.8), TE/DL Diego Fernandez (6-1, 225, 4.9), LB Andrew Ybarra (6-1, 210, 4.7), RB/DB John Acosta (5-9, 175, 4.6), OL/DL EJ Cuevas (6-0, 220, 5.0), DL Chris Ponce (5-10, 220, 4.9). Top juniors: OL Josh Gonzalez (6-2, 270, 5.3). Top sophomore: QB Rocky Orozco (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL Jayson Martinez, RB/DB Austin Abrego, WR/DB Julian Salas, WR/DB Aiden Olivarez, WR/DB Andrew Rodriguez, WR/DB Jayden Olivarez, WR Crew Hudson, OL Taylor Flores.

2025 notes: After 20 years and 136 wins, Harrison explains his program's philosophy as "blue-collar... that prides itself on hard work and playing with tremendous effort." TE/RB/LB Eguia certainly fits that description on both sides of the ball, and TE/DL Fernan-

dez is another hard-edged player that loves to block. The defense will lean heavily on LB Ybarra (78 tackles), who boasts tremendous range and a nose for the ball.

BOERNE GENEVA EAGLES

Coach: Bob Rosenstiel. Lettermen R/L: 19/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 6-5/3-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Brady Chandler (5-10, 155, 4.6), OL/LB Reid Wilson (5-11, 185, 4.9), WR/RB Noah Brunsold (5-10, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Reid Aderholt (6-0, 160, 4.9), ATH Caleb Quitadamo (6-0, 160, 4.9), ATH Bryce Hanover (6-1, 185, 5.0). Top juniors: DL Koen Huebner (6-1, 185, 4.9), K Parker Eiland (6-0, 145, 5.0). Top sophomore: OL/LB Ian Jayroe (5-11, 205, 5.3).

Other prospects: OL/LB Jax Riddle, OL Austin Hodo, OL Mason Sutton, WR/LB Chase Doran, ATH Shae McNew, WR/DB Zac Hajek, OL/DL Mikhail Boespflug, OL/DL Marcos Medrano.

2025 notes: New coach Rosenstiel, an NFL and XFL veteran, takes over a program with plenty of pedigree and no shortage of high-end talent. A young team paid plenty of dues last season, and it may pay off in 2025. Versatile ATH Quitadamo (860 yards, 10 TDs passing) will likely handle most of the duties behind center, and he'll look for WR/DB Chandler (1,085 yards, 16 TDs receiving). OL/LB Wilson (80 tackles) is a do-it-all player that leads the defense.

NEW BRAUNFELS CHRISTIAN WILDCATS

Coach: David Joseph. Lettermen R/L: 19/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 9-2/4-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Dillan Wickham (6-1, 175, 5.0), QB Brady Joseph (6-0, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Barrett Thornhill (5-8, 165, 4.6), LB Quincy Calder (5-8, 185, 4.6), OL/DL Gabe Waddell (6-1, 210, 4.8), RB/DB Carson Walker (5-9, 155, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Sabian Flores (5-10, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Landon Schwandt (6-0, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/DB Carson Walker (5-9, 155, 4.7).

Other prospects: LB David Shoup, DL Nick Morari, LB Owen Wells, WR Jack Khalig, WR Camden Pearson.

2025 notes: If the Wildcats can somehow replace four starters on the offensive line and three more on the defensive front, they may just make another run to the playoffs under first-year head coach Joseph. The team does boast a proven backfield that features QB Joseph (2,018 yards, 25 TDs passing) and RB Wickham (1,863 yards, 29 TDs rushing). Gifted WR/DB Thornhill (716 yards, 8 TDs receiving; 30 tackles) adds to the embarrassment of riches at the skill spots.

AUSTIN HILL COUNTRY KNIGHTS

Coach: Justin Raspberry. Lettermen R/L: 22/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 4-7/2-3 district.

Players to watch: WR Ty Vacek (6-3, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Jack Young (6-0, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: DL Colton Minor (6-2, 170), LB Hunter Hokr (5-8, 160, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR Christian Magee, WR Judah Pulley.

2025 notes: While Raspberry admits "we have some re-tooling to do at key positions," the Knights do boast a wealth of experience. That starts with a loaded set of receivers led by WR Vacek (774 yards, 19 TDs receiving) and WR/DB Young (589 yards, 6 TDs receiving; 79 tackles). They'll help break in a new quarterback. The defensive front seven also looks stout with DL Minor off the edge and LB Hokr (64 tackles), an iron man who rarely leaves the field.

SCHERTZ JOHN PAUL II GUARDIANS

Coach: Kyle Zies. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 9/7. 2024: 1-10/1-4 district.

Players to watch: WR Drake Kapavik (6-3, 180), QB Eddie Wadas (5-9, 150), OL Angel Bueno (6-6, 250), WR/DB Luke Ruiz, DL Jake Wisneski.

2025 notes: Now in his third season as the head coach, Zies measures much of his success by his program's numbers. Although he still says his school

needs more students as well as players in the football program, he likes what he sees from a young team that returns most of its players from a year ago. WR Kapavik returns as a team captain who can lead by example while QB Wadas is back behind center after a promising freshman season.

TAPPS DIVISION IV – District 1

DALLAS FIRST BAPTIST SAINTS

Coach: Jason Lovvorn. Lettermen R/L: 25/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/8. 2024: 12-1 TAPPS Division IV state champion/5-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Kore Thomas (6-3, 300), QB/LB George Anagnostis (6-0, 225, 4.6), WR Zykhuis Roberson (5-11, 170), LB Joseph Martinez (5-10, 165), QB Dylan Jones (5-11, 175), WR/DB Micah Foster (5-1, 155). Top juniors: WR/DB Tucker Brown (6-1, 170), WR Lincoln Schleif (5-10, 170). Top sophomore: RB Jonah Murphy (5-10, 195).

Other prospects: OL/DL/P Camp Pugh, DB Hardin Brown, OL Jared Castillo, DL Marc Gutierrez, WR Eddy Proctor, WR Case Lambeth, OL Edward Gutierrez, WR KJ Sykes.

2025 notes: First Baptist may be one of the smallest 11-man football teams in the state, but its big success has become a model for other parochial schools. Lovvorn says defense will keep his team a title contender. OL/DL Thomas (86 tackles, 9.5 sacks) earned all-state honors on both sides of the ball and has offers from Houston and North Texas, among others. QB/LB Anagnostis (153 tackles) also returns as an all-state defensive player as well as a physical QB; Lovvorn calls him the "Tim Tebow of TAPPS."

WACO LIVE OAK FALCONS

Coach: Matt Hurst. Lettermen R/L: 20/10. Starters returning O/D: 4/8. 2024: 8-4/4-1 district.

Players to watch: DL Jake Wachsmann (6-3, 170, 4.7), OL/LB Jaeden McNamara (6-2, 210, 5.0), RB/LB Tristan Wachsmann (5-9, 205, 4.9), OL/DL Duncan Sutherland (6-4, 250, 5.3), OL/DL Griffin Polnick (6-1, 290, 5.6), WR/DB Greyson Bathurst (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: DB Sawyer Hillman (5-10, 165, 4.6), LB Carter Starr (5-7, 165, 5.1). Top sophomore: WR Trey Cluck (5-11, 150, 4.8).

Other prospects: QB/DB Josh Balch, DB Alex Thompson, WR Jackson Woods, RB/DB Levi Walker, TE/LB Baker Getteman.

2025 notes: The Falcons quickly adapted to the 11-man game a year ago, and Hurst says a group of players "with a ton of grit and grind" could be even better. Defense again looks like the team strength, especially with the return of DL Jake Wachsmann (59 tackles, 3 sacks) and OL/LB McNamara (56 tackles). RB/LB Tristan Wachsmann (805 yards, 11 TDs rushing) "will need to be a workhorse" on offense for a team that wants to run the ball.

MUENSTER SACRED HEART TIGERS

Coach: Dale Schilling. Lettermen R/L: 22/8. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 6-5/3-2 district. Key losses: Kameron Knabe.

Players to watch: QB Clayton Bezner (6-0, 190, 4.6), LB Kaden Blanton (6-0, 190, 4.7), OL Marcus Schilling (6-2, 260, 5.2), OL Jake Hess (6-2, 220, 5.1), RB Nolan Schilling (5-10, 170, 4.8), RB Ben Sicking (5-9, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: OL Daniel Madrid (5-9, 230, 4.9), WR Mario Ochoa (5-9, 170, 4.9). Top sophomore: OL John Gary Bartush (6-0, 220).

2025 notes: These Tigers don't change their stripes; they're going to run the ball, set a physical tone and try to wear down foes. A big, tough offensive line, led by OLs Marcus Schilling, Hess and Madrid, will protect QB Bezner and clear some holes for RBs Nolan Schilling and Sicking. If WR Ochoa can emerge as

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a steady threat downfield for Bezner, that will provide some needed offensive balance. Keep an eye on OL Bartush, a young player with loads of potential.

MERCY CULTURE PREP ROYALS

Coach: Sean Riley. Lettermen R/L: 12/7. Starters returning O/D: 5/9. 2024: 4-8/2-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Jon Anthony Lardizabal (5-10, 175, 4.5), ATH Braden Raybuck (6-1, 215, 4.7), WR/LB Walker Hughes (5-11, 165, 4.7), LB Julius Owens (5-7, 175, 4.8), DL Jude Michalski (6-6, 225, 4.8), ATH Ben Utley (6-0, 210, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Judah Gurule (6-0, 170, 4.8), WR/DB Harper Haggerton (5-11, 160). Top sophomore: QB JJ Smeltzer (5-7, 165, 4.7).

Other prospects: WR/DB Ethan Emerick, OL/DL Aden Maldonado, RB/LB Aaron Gonzalez, ATH Enyichi Ohiaeriaku, WR/DB Noah Norwood, DB Joel Oddo, WR/DB Jair Erazo, OL/DL Caleb Taylor.

2025 notes: It's no secret to success for the Royals' offense; Riley wants to get his playmakers the ball in space, and he wants them to use their athleticism to make big plays. RB Lardizabal (834 yards, 5 TDs rushing; 276 yards receiving) looks primed for a big year on offense and in the return game, and ATH Raybuck (437 yards of offense; 102 tackles) will build on a promising sophomore season in 2024. The Royals will need a strong sophomore class, led by WR/KB Hughes (368 yards receiving, 98 tackles) to step up.

WACO REICHER COUGARS

Coach: Nick York. Lettermen R/L: 25/2. Starters returning O/D: 10/11. 2024: 0-10/0-5 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Houston Tucker (6-3, 260, 5.1), OL/DL Kaison Biles (5-9, 200, 5.0), OL/DL Pierce Ready (5-10, 240, 5.1), WR/DB Jackson Ortiz (5-10, 160, 4.5), RB/LB Paxton Ready (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Damian Fernandez (5-8, 155, 4.5). Top juniors: WR/DB Keegan Patterson (5-8, 160, 4.6), OL/DL Chris Torres (5-10, 260, 5.2). Top sophomore: WR/LB Major Silva (5-9, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB/LB Mackennon Sammon, OL/DL Barrett Landon, WR/LB John Venegas, OL/DL Kayden Anderson, QB/DB Wyatt Brown, WR/DB Tyler Collier, WR/DB Bryant Parker, RB/LB Johny De La Rosa.

2025 notes: After a young squad took its lumps last season, second-year coach York says bluntly that "we have to take the next step in our program. Reicher has a rich history of success in the football program. The community is proud of that tradition and is eager to support the current (players) return to that former glory." A handful of veterans up front should help the Cougars bounce back from last season. OL/DL Tucker sets the tone on both lines, and WR/DB Ortiz may be the team's most dangerous playmaker.

TAPPS DIVISION IV – District 2

TEMPLE CENTRAL TEXAS CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Leif Johnston. Lettermen R/L: 21/4. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 10-2/4-1 district.

Players to watch: TE/LB Ike Klimchuk (6-2, 215, 4.7), WR/DB Rhett Humphrey (6-0, 170, 4.6), QB Cooper Smith (6-2, 180, 4.8), Top juniors: ATH Princeton Schneider (5-8, 140, 4.5), QB/DB Coulter Ragsdale (5-10, 155, 4.6).

2025 notes: Now in his 10th season leading the Lions, Erickson takes special pride in a homefield advantage that has helped the team go 16-3 on its own field since 2023. "(It's) like stepping back into a time machine and you are back in 1980," he said. "Friday nights is something we hang our hat on; the whole community comes out." All-state TE/LB Klimchuk (60 yards, 9 TDs receiving; 154 tackles) anchors a ferocious defense, and QB Smith (1,625 yards, 16 TDs passing) enters his third year as a starter.

SHINER ST. PAUL CARDINALS

Coach: Barry Wolf. Lettermen R/L: 22/6. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 5-7/3-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Sam Perez (6-0, 200, 4.7), OL/DL Brodey Biehunko (6-0, 240, 5.4), OL/DL Zeke Basquez (5-6, 220, 5.3), WR/DB Jack Ehrig (6-1, 170, 4.9). Top juniors: WR/DB Tyler Pendley (6-0, 170, 4.8), WR Andrew Nunez (5-8, 150, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Jace Matias (6-1, 175, 4.8).

Other prospects: OL/DL Wyatt Siegel, TE/DL Gabe Darilek, TE/DL Carter Chilek, RB/DB Donnie Jones, OL/LB Evan Rother, OL/DL Jack Leonard.

2025 notes: Wolf takes pride in his "hard-working, blue-collar" team that plays a lot bigger than its collective size. The Cardinals' style of play reflects that mentality; RB/LB Perez (1,731 yards, 22 TDs rushing) is a workhorse, and burly OL/DLs Basquez and Biehunko set the tone on both lines of scrimmage. A key to the season is ATH Matias; Wolf would like to use his speed and physicality at the skill spots on both sides of the ball, but Matias may have to focus on quarterback.

HALLETTVILLE SACRED HEART INDIANS

Coach: Rodney Dowell. Lettermen R/L: 18/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 6-5.

Players to watch: RB/LB Clayton Haas (6-0, 175), RB/LB Cameron Coll (6-1, 170), WR/LB Ty Noska (5-11, 170), OL/DL Brody Etzler (6-6, 205), OL/DL Bowen Hawkins (6-1, 210), OL/DL Timber Janek (6-3, 215). Top juniors: WR/LB Layne Sevcik (6-0, 165), LB Wyatt Matume (5-9, 17). Top sophomore: WR/DB Trent Sevcik (5-7, 130).

Other prospects: RB/DB Colby Haas, TE/LB Brennan Ralston, WR/DB Dillion Goedrich, WR/DB Jayden Schindler, RB/LB Arlen Henke.

2025 notes: Dowell likes his team's athleticism, and he loves his crop of "hard-working kids." But the Indians do lack size in the trenches, which the team will have to overcome if it wants to make another postseason push. RB/LBs Haas and Coll will see a lot of snaps on both sides of the ball, and WR/LB Noska may be the fastest player on the team. Sacred Heart will need OL/DLs Hawkins and Janek to develop quickly and have big seasons.

TOMBALL ROSEHILL EAGLES

Coach: Jim Phillips. Lettermen R/L: 27/1. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 3-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: DL Bo Smith (6-3, 190, 4.8), WR/DB Ty LeBoeuf (5-9, 170, 4.6), RB Ben Moore (5-8, 165, 4.6), RB Caleb Davial (6-0, 180, 4.7), TE Weston Hulst (6-0, 190, 5.0). Top juniors: DB Gage Jelke (5-8, 160, 4.7), RB Aaron Alexander (6-0, 220, 4.8). Top sophomore: LB Landon Henderson (5-11, 170, 4.7).

Other prospects: OL Wyatt Blase, OL Brooks Johnson, RB Jacob LaRouere, DL Bjorn Lundgren, QB Matthew Peyton, DB Hudson Burk.

2025 notes: Literally almost everyone is back for Rosehill Christian, which loses just one player from a year ago. That experience could help the Eagles soar into playoff contention after a rough 2024 campaign. QB Peyton (375 yards receiving) is now a seasoned veteran, and RB Moore (325 yards rushing) has some big-play burst. The defense will rely on DL Smith, a sturdy playmaker with good speed who holds the edge.

CONROE COVENANT COUGARS

Coach: Joseph Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 22/5. Starters returning O/D: 7/8. 2024: 3-8/1-4 district.

Players to watch: RB Josh DeRamus (6-2, 180, 4.4), QB Preston Van (5-10, 175, 4.7), WR Zach Taylor (5-8, 165, 4.6), WR Walker Wood (6-1, 160, 4.5), LB Gabriel Garcia (5-10, 170, 4.9), DL Sutton Campbell (5-10, 170, 4.9). Top juniors: WR Brady McDaniel (5-6, 145, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Hector Gonzalez (5-8, 135, 4.8).

2025 notes: With most of last season's squad back, look for a more-seasoned group to make a postsea-

son push. QB Van (1,213 yards passing) gives the team a scrappy leader who knows how to move the chains, and RB DeRamus (723 yards rushing) is a long, lean runner with breakout speed. The Cougars rarely outsize their foes, which makes the play of LB Garcia (22 tackles) and DL Campbell (17 tackles) especially important in the defensive front seven.

TAPPS – Non-Aligned

LEAGUE CITY BAY AREA CHRISTIAN BRONCOS

Coach: Kyle Kennedy. Lettermen R/L: 19/7. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 6-4.

Players to watch: OL/DL Carter Murphy, RB/LB Keaton Hall, RB/DB Kaleab Skeeter, OL/DL Joshua Kroese, QB Andrew Cresswell, OL/DL Charles Kuebler. Top juniors: TE/DL Garrett Bessler, LB Nate Pike. Top sophomore: QB/DB Conner Joyce.

Other prospects: RB/DB Matthew Young, OL/DL/LB Ezekiel Grumbles, OL/DL Rhett De Graaf, WR/DB Cooper Holloman, RB/LB Colton Lewis, RB/LB Cash Molis, WR/DB Beau Bradley.

2025 notes: With plenty of pride, Kemp says his squad "is big and physical up front." Opponents won't argue; the Broncos welcome four starters back from an effective offensive line, including an elite center in OL/DL Carter Murphy (38 tackles, 7 sacks). Those OLs will protect QB Cresswell (785 yards, 9 TDs passing) and clear holes for RB Hall (518 yards, 9 TDs rushing), who averaged almost 10 yards per carry last season. Depth is a concern for Kemp, and the Broncos can't afford too many injuries.

KATY ST. JOHN XXIII LIONS

Coach: David Flora. Lettermen R/L: 15/8. Starters returning O/D: 7/5. 2024: 4-6/independent.

Players to watch: WR/DB Micah Cohen (6-1, 170, 4.8), WR/LB Nate Sero (6-0, 175, 4.7), WR/DB Ethan Malinowski (5-10, 165, 4.9), RB/LB Ethan Quinton (5-10, 180, 5.0), TE/LB Caden Mouton (6-1, 210, 5.0), RB/DB Anthony Villarreal (5-6, 170, 4.7). Top juniors: OL/LB Travis Hammons (5-11, 180, 5.0), OL Brody Medford (5-11, 175, 5.0).

Other prospects: RB/LB Benji House, OL/DL Ayden Rand.

2025 notes: With four starters returning on both lines of scrimmage, the Lions seem to have the muscle where it matters most. OL/DL Rand, OL/LB Hammons and OL Medford lead the big boys, and they'll protect whoever claims the open starting quarterback job. St. John XXIII does have some weapons on the outside for the new quarterback to work with, including WR/DB Cohen (704 yards, 8 TDs receiving). Speedy WR/LB Sero (31 tackles) leads the defense.

SPRING FRASSATI CATHOLIC FALCONS

Coach: Calvin LaFiton. Lettermen R/L: 16/5. Starters returning O/D: 8/7. 2024: 3-7/3-7 district.

Players to watch: DL Aaron Szostak (6-0, 230, 5.6), RB Michael Johnston (5-10, 185, 4.6), WR/TE Will Sorenson (6-2, 190, 4.8), LB/DB Cam Piefer (5-10, 180, 4.7), OL Christian Hougen (6-1, 225, 5.5), DL Sean Toomey (6-5, 180, 4.6). Top juniors: DB Riley McCollor (6-3, 160, 5.0), LB Seamus Carney (5-8, 210, 5.7). Top sophomore: QB Jacob Fenn (6-3, 180, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL Jackson Little, WR John Nielson, DB Luke Bevilacqua, WR Carson Weis, OL Thomas Nguyen.

2025 notes: Plenty of team speed and an offseason focus on better tackling should make the Falcons more competitive this season, says LaFiton. RB Johnston (476 yards rushing, 118 yards receiving) can turn any touch into a touchdown out of the backfield, and WR/TE Sorenson has good size and the speed to get downfield. The defensive front seven looks stout; DL Szostak (32 tackles) is a sturdy interior presence while LB/DB Piefer (70 tackles) makes plays from sideline to sideline.

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SPC — 4A

HOUSTON KINKAID FALCONS

Coach: Nathan Lamed. Lettermen R/L: 29/23. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 10-1 SPC 4A state champion/5-0 district.

Players to watch: RB Wayne Shanks Jr. (5-11, 180, 4.4), WR Alexander Donnelly (6-0, 170, 4.6), DL Odell Winn (5-11, 215, 4.8), LB Thomas Smith (6-1, 200, 4.5). Top juniors: QB Ross Wynne (5-11, 170, 4.7), WR/DB Nate Chambers (6-1, 170, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR Drake Olson (6-2, 200, 4.5).

2025 notes: If the Falcons can replace four of their five starters on an inexperienced offensive line, they could power their way back into title contention. Shanks (1,800 yards, 27 TDs rushing) "is as good as it gets," Lamed says, and he will help ease the transition for a new offensive line. WR Donnelly should serve as the top target and leads a deep receiving corps for QB Wynne. LB Smith can line up anywhere in the defensive front seven and wreak havoc.

BELLAIRE EPISCOPAL KNIGHTS

Coach: James Moynahan. Lettermen R/L: 15/15. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4/4-1 district.

Players to watch: DB Rodney Thomas (6-2, 180), LB Travis Johnson (6-1, 220), LB Madden Morgan (6-2, 220), LB Jacob Campbell (6-1, 220), DL Deacon Morgan (6-3, 210), OL Dillard Jennings (6-6, 230). Top juniors: WR Raimy Evans, RB Brooks Allen. Top sophomore: DB Reed Fowler.

2025 notes: The bad news for the Knights' offense? They lose almost all of their skill players to graduation. But there's good news, too. The entire starting offensive line returns, including OL Jennings, a true mauler. That group will help break in young talents like WR Evans and RB Allen. The defense also must fill some holes but does welcome back its top three tacklers from last season, including DB Thomas, LB Johnson and LB Morgan.

HOUSTON ST. JOHN'S MAVERICKS

Coach: Kevin Veltri. Lettermen R/L: 42/19. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 7-3/3-2 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Malachi Booker (6-6, 225, 4.9), QB Shea Quinn (6-3, 190, 4.7), OL Will Lane (6-4, 305), DL Jack Stanger (6-2, 220, 4.8). Top juniors: DB Tony Thomas (6-1, 170, 4.6), ATH Carson Murray (5-11, 175, 4.6). Top sophomore: TE/DL Nicholas Arribas (6-3, 190, 4.8).

2025 notes: On the field and in the classroom, the Mavericks have set a high standard in Veltri's seven seasons as head coach. Don't expect that to change much even though St. John's must replace some key offensive players. TE/DL Booker, a highly rated basketball recruit, will likely play a bigger role in the passing offense while QB Quinn (1,424 yards, 11 TDs passing) has emerged as a team captain and trusted leader.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL OF DALLAS EAGLES

Coach: Richard Williams. Lettermen R/L: 21/19. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 2-8/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR Siler Cooke (5-11, 175, 4.5), WR/DB Curtis Mathes (5-11, 160, 4.6), RB William Taylor (5-9, 185, 4.6), WR/DB Danny Hoffpauir (5-9, 175, 4.7), TE/DB Asher Cooke (6-2, 185, 4.6), RB/DB Nico Marquez (5-9, 185, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Samuel Olsen (6-3, 275, 5.0), QB Miles Link (5-11, 175, 4.8). Top sophomore: ATH Wayte McKnight (5-11, 165, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB/LB Hudson Young, WR/DB Andrew Russell, OL/DL Mason Conley, TE/DL John Edge Sowa, RB/LB John Tsiakos, WR William Elliott, OL/DK Stephen Martin.

2025 notes: Sure, the team must break in a lot of young talent, but Williams says the Eagles "will fly under the radar — right where we want to be." They could

be there at the end depending on how the young talent develops. QB Link could take over as the starter after showing flashes as a sophomore in 2024, and he will target veteran WR Siler Cooke and WR/DB Mathes. Keep an eye on RB Taylor, a breakout candidate. Big OL/DL Olsen will key a rebuild in the trenches.

THE WOODLANDS JOHN COOPER DRAGONS

Coach: Erik DeHaven. Lettermen R/L: 35/13. Starters returning O/D: 8/8. 2024: 2-8/0-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Colten Rhoden III (6-1, 225, 4.6), QB Colson Collins (6-0, 180, 4.4), WR Eric Sipko (6-4, 185, 4.5), TE Jake Sneed (6-5, 240, 4.7), OL David Esquivel (6-3, 295, 5.3), DL Lucas Triplett (6-0, 300, 5.1). Top juniors: DB Blake Lopez (5-11, 170, 4.7), OL Collin Weaks (6-7, 290, 5.3). Top sophomore: WR/DB Brayden Brooks (6-0, 175, 4.7).

Other prospects: DL Nolan Meek, OL Parker Neumann, OL Peyton Neumann, LB Campbell Starley, DL/LB Cooper Dupuis, DB Kaleb Smith, DB Pierson Todd.

2025 notes: A massive senior class that includes a big and nasty offensive line should help the team rebound from a disappointing season, DeHaven says. OL Esquivel, a major collegiate prospect, leads the unit from his guard spot while OL Weaks is another big-time recruit at tackle. They'll help protect QB Colson (948 yards passing), whom DeHaven thinks will emerge as one of the top passers in SPC. The most valuable Dragon may be RB/LB Rhoden (55 tackles), who will start both ways.

DALLAS ST. MARK'S LIONS

Coach: Harry Flaherty. Lettermen R/L: 34/16. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 6-4/2-3 district.

Players to watch: OL Brady Wyatt (6-6, 300, 5.4), LB Marshall Bagley (5-10, 210, 4.8), DL Adam Dalrymple (5-10, 210, 5.2), DB Riggs Bean (5-11, 185, 4.6), LB Zac Yarchin (6-2, 210, 4.6), OL Matei Oprea (6-4, 285, 5.4). Top juniors: RB David Dickson (5-10, 200, 4.8), DB Mac Saye (5-10, 190, 4.8).

2025 notes: An elite academic school, St. Mark's is beginning to make, well, high marks on the football field. A talented and experienced offensive line should help the Lions build on last season's momentum. OL Wyatt already has an offer from Air Force at left tackle, and OL Oprea provides another next-level player at right tackle. Team captains in LB Bagley and DL Dalrymple anchor the defensive front seven, and LB Yarchin (76 tackles, 3.5 sacks) brings the heat from the edge.

SPC — 3A

HOUSTON CHRISTIAN MUSTANGS

Coach: AJ Eisenman. Lettermen R/L: 12/21. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 8-3 SPC 3A state champion/7-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Graeme Highberg (6-0, 240), WR/DB Sam Cdebaca (5-10, 165, 4.4), OL Sam Nutt (6-5, 250), RB/DB Kade Gulleddge (5-11, 175, 4.4), OL/DL Riley Dolfo (5-9, 280), DL Paul Hill (5-11, 205). Top juniors: QB RJ Bevans (5-9, 165), WR/DB Jackson Barrow (5-11, 175). Top sophomore: WR/DB Graeson Sare (5-9, 165).

Other prospects: WR Harrison Jones, OL Trevor Robertson, DL Henry Horton, WR/DB Tripp Watson, RB/LB Hayden McCarty.

2025 notes: After back-to-back seasons with at least 20 seniors, the Mustangs will try to retain their success with a smaller senior class. But a stout offensive line could help the team overcome its relative inexperience. OL/DL Highberg is a two-time all-conference selection and an established team leader, OL Nutt returns for a third year as a starter, and both will help protect young QB Evans, who split time as the starter as a sophomore in 2024.

FORT WORTH TRINITY VALLEY TROJANS

Coach: Matt Morrison. Lettermen R/L: 18/12. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 5-5/4-2 district.

Players to watch: OL Hub Nickels (6-5, 255), LB Chris Houston (6-2, 195), DB Tappan Bailey (5-10, 165), WR/DB Charlie Bulaich (5-10, 165), Nicolas Watkins (6-1, 150). Top juniors: QB Caden Tolbert (5-10, 150), DL Brander Killion (6-2, 320). Top sophomore: OL/DL Beckett Hamilton (6-2, 210).

2025 notes: How much does Morrison love his team's potential? "If we stay healthy, we could win the SPC." The defense, especially the back seven, could dominate. LB Houston (91 tackles) and DB Bailey (75 tackles) are among the best in the conference at their respective positions, and WR/DB Bulaich (489 yards, 4 TDs receiving; 40 tackles) rarely leaves the field.

FORT WORTH COUNTRY DAY FALCONS

Coach: Keith Burns. Lettermen R/L: 20/14. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 7-2/5-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Canaan Factor (6-3, 195, 4.5), RB/LB Fox Burton (5-11, 190, 4.5), TE/DL Cal Nuebauer (6-4, 215, 4.6), WR/DB/P Fulton Weaver (6-1, 185, 4.6), QB Cooper Paul (6-4, 210, 4.8), RB/LB Thomas Bluntzer (6-0, 195, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Will Bloemendahl (6-2, 180, 4.5), RB/DB Scott Huffman (5-11, 185, 4.5). Top sophomore: OL/DL Adian Fuller (5-10, 220, 5.2).

Other prospects: OL/DL Estabian Gomez, ATH William Stadler, WR/DB Owen Bloemendahl.

2025 notes: The Falcons must replace plenty of players from a massive senior class, but Burns says "it's a great opportunity" for some of the program's younger players. But Country Day does have some proven veterans such as WR/DB Factor (600 yards, 9 TDs receiving), a multi-sport star and a team leader. RB/LB Burton (450 yards rushing, 78 tackles) is another senior leader expected to anchor the team, while TE/DL Nuebauer (45 tackles, 7 sacks) paces the defense.

AUSTIN ST. ANDREW'S HIGHLANDERS

Coach: Edward Cantrell. Lettermen R/L: 23/11. Starters returning O/D: 6/7. 2024: 3-7/0-6 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Marcos Erlanson (6-1, 160), OL Graves Wood (6-1, 220), ATH Charlie Greenberg (5-8, 150), ATH Jack Dial (5-6, 160), DB Ethan Horvath (6-2, 160), LB Austin Toland (6-1, 205). Top juniors: DB/K Will Riley (6-1, 170), LB Andrew Childers (6-1, 205). Top sophomore: OL Jackson Wood.

Other prospects: RB/DB Hayes Paddock.

2025 notes: Cantrell welcomes back the most experience he's had in three seasons as coach, and he thinks that could make the Highlanders competitive in a tough district. Scrappy ATH Greenberg (1,528 yards, 15 TDs passing) returns and will likely handle the bulk of the duties behind center, and speedy WR/DB Erlanson (942 yards, 14 TDs receiving) will again serve as the primary downfield threat. OL Wood has started 30 games in his career at guard, and St. Andrew's will need him to lead a young unit.

IRVING CISTERCIAN HAWKS

Coach: Andre' Bruce. Lettermen R/L: 15/7. Starters returning O/D: 6/11. 2024: 2-7/1-5 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Major Beasley (5-7, 145, 4.8), WR Dylan Nevitt (5-8, 150, 4.9), DL Arthur Moran (6-1, 230, 5.2), RB Will McHugh (5-9, 170, 4.8), WR Patrick Spurl (6-1, 170, 4.7), QB Trevor Stanley (6-5, 195, 5.0). Top juniors: WR/DB Matthew McCarthy (6-0, 175, 4.7). Top sophomore: WR/DB Brady Quinn (6-0, 170, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB/LB Jacob Lin, WR/DB Matthew Brown, WR/DB Dillon Pitts.

2025 notes: An impressive collection of skill players and a veteran defense could help the Hawks soar into playoff contention. WR/DBs Beasley (306 yards

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receiving; 40 tackles) and Nevitt (47 tackles) will see plenty of snaps on both sides of the ball and can make plays downfield. But can Cistercian find a new quarterback to get them the ball? QB Stanley has a big arm and ideal size but lacks the experience. Big OL/DL Moran sets the tone on both lines of scrimmage.

TCSAAL

HOUSTON KIPP SUNNYSIDE SENATORS

Coach: Jarod Johnson. Lettermen R/L: 9/14. Starters returning O/D: 3/6. 2024: 10-2 TCSAAL state champion/3-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Timothy Carter Jr. (6-2, 200, 4.5), WR Rodney Wilson (5-11, 155), DB Adrian Bernard II (5-9, 160), DB Kaden Castille (6-1, 165), DL Bruce Hockless (6-2, 200), OL Michael Scranton (5-11, 240). Top juniors: DB Ra'Mond Bailey (5-9, 115), OL Ethan Smith. Top sophomore: WR Cameron Lestrick.

Other prospects: QB Donovan Blackmon, DB Chase Turner.

2025 notes: The Senators lose a lot of talent from last year's squad, but don't count them out. ATH Carter (2,829 yards, 41 TDs passing; 598 yards, 8 TDs rushing) can single-handedly wreck a defensive gameplan, and WR Wilson (1,403 yards, 23 TDs) gives Sunnyside a big-play threat on the outside. Carter also plays a big role on defense, and DL Hockless (4 sacks) gives a good push inside. In the secondary, Bernard (6 INTs) is one of the top ballhawks in the league.

HOUSTON PRO-VISION WARRIORS

Coach: Derick Mason. Lettermen R/L: 8/6. Starters returning O/D: 5/8. 2024: 4-6/5-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Glenn Bonner (5-9, 165, 4.6), DB Charlie Fisher (6-0, 170, 4.6). Top juniors: OL/DL Jerome Bradford (6-1, 230, 4.8), TE Isaiah McDonald (6-4, 210, 4.6). Top sophomore: WR/LB Braylon Homes (5-10, 180, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL/DL Dereon Matthews, DL/LB Joshua Shepard, RB/LB Donte Lee, OL/DL Devin Jones, ATH Javonte Smith.

2025 notes: Defense should carry the Warriors into contention for the district title, especially on the back end. DB Fisher returned four of his eight interceptions a year ago for touchdowns, and WR/DB Bonner (500 yards receiving) is equally dangerous on offense, defense and special teams. Pro-Vision also looks sharp up front with OL/DL Bradford (6 sacks) back, along with a big downfield target in TE McDonald. Finding a new quarterback looks like a summer priority.

DALLAS UME PREP EAGLES

Coach: Joshua Hardin. Lettermen R/L: 18/7. Starters returning O/D: 5/7. 2024: 5-6/3-0 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Dane Esbrand (6-6, 210), TE/DL Isaac Cisneros (6-2, 185), OL/LB Liam Pruitt (6-0, 205), ATH Noah Bermudez (6-1, 175), RB/DB Kingston Wiley (5-11, 165). Top sophomore: QB Austin Dennis (6-0, 165).

2025 notes: After reaching the state title game a year ago in just their third season as a program, "our boys know the path to return," said Hardin. "And we know we have to work harder with the target on our back." OL/DL Esbrand, a towering figure on the edge, works plenty hard. So does TE/DL Cisneros, another edge player who teams with Esbrand for one of the best edge tandems in the conference. Young QB Dennis will have an expanded role, and he'll lean on RB/DB Wiley and ATH Bermudez.

THIL

DALLAS HSAA ANGELS

Coach: Reggie Davis. Lettermen R/L: 20/10. Starters returning O/D: 7/10. 2024: 10-1 THIL state champion/2-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Jordan Davis (6-3, 190, 4.5), WR/DB Tyson Davis (6-5, 205, 4.6), RB/LB Marcos Segura (5-10, 215), RB/LB Colin Rooney (5-10, 200), WR/DB Gavin Tamkin (5-10, 180). Top juniors: WR/DB Arlen Wasneuski (5-5, 145), DL Wyatt Collinson (6-3, 180). Top sophomore: ATH Ryn Johnson.

Other prospects: WR/DB Andrew Segura, DB Ryker Haven, WR/DB Silas Poteet, DB Samuel Burden, RB/LB Braylen Mayhan, OL/DL Achillius Samaan, OL/DL Tre Gentile, OL/DL Noel Norsworthy.

2025 notes: Davis has built a North Dallas powerhouse, and the Angels could again soar high if they can find a reliable quarterback and rebuild their offensive line. The defense looks downright dominant; WR/DBs Jordan and Tyson Davis return to lead the secondary, and RB/LB Segura (85 tackles) is "our toughest player and a great teammate," Davis said. RB/LB Rooney (457 yards rushing; 72 tackles) brings even more physical play on both sides of the ball.

HOUSTON NORTHSIDE HOMESCHOOL LIONS

Coach: Mike Helmer. Lettermen R/L: 28/10. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 10-1/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Kohein Jergensen (6-4, 185, 4.8), RB/LB Decklan Kearney (5-7, 180, 4.7), OL/DL Chris Salgado (6-3, 300, 5.7), WR/DB David Jergensen (6-0, 185, 4.9), WR/LB David Phillips (5-8, 175, 4.8). Top juniors: OL/DL Andrew Beneke (5-10, 200, 5.2), RB/LB Santiago Mariquin (5-10, 185, 5.0). Top sophomore: WR/DB Tennyson Vest (5-10, 165, 4.9).

Other prospects: OL/DL Nick Brooker, K Finn Isbelle, OL/DL Cannon Pelton, WR/DB Colton Davidson, OL/LB Jeremiah Williams, WR/DB DJ Woodley, RB/LB Kinkade Vest.

2025 notes: Graduation has taken a toll on the program over the past two seasons, with 22 players leaving the Lions. That makes the presence of QB Kohein Jergensen especially important. Helmer cites Jergensen's big arm, but he says the senior's leadership could prove even more critical on a young team. He'll throw often to a familiar target in WR David Jergensen (827 yards, 9 TDs receiving), his younger brother. Big OL/DL Salgado is a physical presence up front.

CENTEX SPORTS ASSOCIATION OUTLAWS

Coach: Joshua Westerfeld. Lettermen R/L: N/A. Starters returning O/D: 9/8. 2024: 3-6/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB Levi Westerfeld (5-11, 185, 4.8), DL Robbie Hernandez (6-1, 220, 5.4).

Other prospects: WR Jamaar Spratley.

2025 notes: The Outlaws like to run the ball out of their power spread offense, and RB Westerfeld (1,100 yards, 11 TDs rushing; 300 yards, 3 TDs receiving) is more than willing to carry a heavy load. Expect even more touches for the junior, who's the son of the head coach. Defensively, the team will lean heavily on DL Hernandez (53 tackles), a physical and relentless player who usually lines up on the edge.

11-MAN Independents

HOUSTON LEGACY TITANS

Coach: Michael Bishop. Lettermen R/L: 16/13. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 7-4/independent.

Players to watch: QB Keisean Henderson (6-4, 195, 4.5), WR Michael Brown (6-2, 185, 4.5), DB Eli Kelly (6-0, 160, 4.4), RB Julian Shepard (5-8, 180, 4.5), OL Mylen Colley (6-4, 285, 5.5), WR/DB D'andre Frazier (5-7, 160, 4.5). Top juniors: RB/TE/DL Jamir Young (6-3, 260, 4.8), WR Damaris Richardson (5-6, 155, 4.4). Top sophomore: OL K'syn Howell (6-1, 290, 5.3).

Other prospects: RB/DB Roland Etheridge, OL Ryan Garcia, DL Treynell Rivers, LB Omari McNeil, TE/WR Timmy Timmerman, DL Jaden Wilkerson, WR Deshaun Williams, LB John Deleon.

2025 notes: The Titans will again forge through an independent schedule and "try to win every game." Hopefully, someone will let us in their league," said Bishop. Offense should again form Legacy's identity, especially with Henderson (2,700 yards, 27 TDs passing) back behind center. He'll need to mix in some new weapons, but WRs Brown and WR/DB Frazier boast plenty of speed. The offensive line again looks like a strength with physical OL Colley leading the way.

TOMBALL CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL WARRIORS

Coach: Skeet Alderson. Lettermen R/L: 23/9. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 10-1.

Players to watch: WR/K Daniel Abraham (5-11, 175, 4.5), TE Luke Hansen (6-4, 215, 4.8), QB Caden Alderson (6-2, 170, 4.9), LB Jacob Muhle (6-5, 240, 4.9), OL Jadon Palacios (6-1, 285, 5.7), OL Sam Pearson (6-2, 295, 5.9). Top juniors: LB Houston Bynum (6-1, 215, 4.7), DL Hunter Black (6-5, 195, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Taven Oluwa (5-9, 175, 4.6).

Other prospects: DL Franklin Huard, DB Ian Stavino-ha, OL Eli Morris, QB Charlie Harrison, DL Reggie Malvo, DB Elijah Alexander, OL Henry Medlin.

2025 notes: Size certainly isn't a concern for the Warriors, who have, well, big expectations in 2025. OLs Palacios, Pearson and Morris return in the interior of the offensive line, and they average 285 pounds. The size extends out to the edge, where TE Hansen excels as a blocker and boasts soft hands. Heck, even LB Muhle (41 tackles, 6 sacks) boasts NFL-type size after moving to middle linebacker from defensive end.

SAN ANTONIO CORNERSTONE WARRIORS

Coach: Clayton Guillery. Lettermen R/L: 45/16. Starters returning O/D: 3/10. 2024: 6-5/independent.

Players to watch: WR/DB Davis McCray (6-2, 200, 4.5), OL Brandon Stewart Jr. (6-5, 340), DL Drake Carroll (6-5, 225), DL Cole Clark (6-3, 220), DL Joshua Cox (6-1, 250), WR Jaaden Johnson (6-2, 190, 4.6). Top juniors: WR/DB Luke Smith (6-0, 175, 4.6), LB Jonah Paquette (5-11, 195). Top sophomore: RB/DB Jaylen McKane.

Other prospects: QB Seth Shuler, LB Angel Hernandez, RB/DB Elijah Fayall, WR/DB Deshaun Horn, WR/DB Josiah McNeil, RB/DB Adonis Arch, DL Ahzan Bocate, DB Caleb Kent.

2025 notes: The Warriors received an offseason jolt with the arrival of QB Shuler from nearby Kerrville Tivy, and Guillery says he'll "light it up" with WR/DBs Clark (639 yards, 10 TDs receiving) and Smith and WR Johnson. But defense looks like the, ahem, cornerstone of this squad. DLs Carroll (21 tackles, 4 sacks) and Clark form a relentless pair of bookend edge rushers, and DL Cox "is super quick off the line" inside, Guillery said.

ATLAS HOMESCHOOL RATTTLERS

Coach: Chris Connaughton. Lettermen R/L: 48/21. Starters returning O/D: 9/5. 2024: 8-4/1-2 district.

Players to watch: ATH Timmy Thames (6-0, 185), WR Jack Garza (5-11, 175), OL Ty McCurry (6-6, 285), OL CJ Scott (6-3, 355), WR Brody McCray (6-0, 165), DB Drake Hadley (6-1, 190). Top juniors: QB/WR Jaeden Phillips (5-9, 160), OL Cristian Garcia (6-1, 230). Top sophomore: DL/LB Marshall DeSario (6-1, 210).

Other prospects: DL Matthew Lopez, WR Carter McKinney, OL John Gallagher, LB Drew Harris, OL Gage Lancaster, DL Kenden Kemp, DB Christopher Connaughton, LB Maddox Ramsey.

2025 notes: Sometimes it seems that Atlas coach Connaughton carries the weight of the world on his shoulders for the Rattlers, considering the school self-funds a packed schedule that has included national-championship games in Florida and appearances at NFL stadiums. On the field, ATH Thames (81 tackles) does it all from offense to defense to special teams. WR Garza (760 yards, 12 TDs receiving) fuels the offense from the slot while OL McCurry has drawn college interest as an incoming sophomore.

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Coach: Drew Sells. Lettermen R/L: 5/25. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Brayden Dawson (6-2, 175, 4.8), DL Hudson Dennis (6-2, 235, 5.0), WR Ryu Tomita (5-8, 160, 4.7), LB William Werlein (5-10, 205, 5.1), LB Dean Mestayer (5-9, 180, 4.9). Top juniors: WR Dyson Zarro (6-0, 165, 4.8). Top sophomore: RB Gabe Pandosh (6-0, 175, 4.8).

2025 notes: With a new campus in a new community in nearby Bridgeland as well as lots of new faces, the Warriors enter a fresh era. Sells says a small but dedicated senior class will ease the transition, especially with QB Dawson back from a broken collarbone. The defensive front seven looks like a strength with senior DL Dennis and LBs Werlein and Mestayer, but the team has to rebuild its offensive line in order to protect Dawson.

MCKINNEY CHRISTIAN MUSTANGS

Coach: Dan Whitsett. Lettermen R/L: 19/2. Starters returning O/D: 9/9. 2024: 1-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: QB Cody Dow (6-2, 205, 4.7), WR/DB Harrison Thompson (6-0, 170, 4.6), OL/LB Jasher Massingale (5-11, 195, 4.9), WR/DB Quentin Phillips (6-1, 185, 4.8), TE/LB Chase Bruegel (5-10, 180, 4.9), DB/K/P Luke Dreffs (6-0, 185, 4.8).

2025 notes: Whitsett admits that he's still "building the foundation" for a program that doesn't yet have a JV squad to feed the varsity ranks, but the Mustangs hope to kickstart that development this season. A group of freshmen and sophomores "gained a lot of experience" last season and looked primed for a competitive season. That optimism starts with senior QB Dow (1,936 total yards, 18 TDs), a physical leader who can move the chains with his arm and legs. WR/DB Thompson (647 yards receiving) is a threat.

SOMERSET ACADEMY BEARS

Coach: Joel Sofet. Lettermen R/L: 26/14. Starters returning O/D: 7/6. 2024: 3-6/0-1 district.

Players to watch: OL Daniel Mairs, OL Isaac Vargas, WR Logan Grigsby, LB Billie Cortez, DB Christian Gonzalez, OL/DL Harrison Goodman. Top juniors: WR/DB Noah Sambrano. Top sophomore: OL/DL/LB Ian Brooks.

2025 notes: The Bears come off an impressive season, considering they had never before played 11-man football and the middle-school feeder program still doesn't play tackle football. That's why Sofet likes his team's chances this season even though it must find a new quarterback. All the starters on the offensive line come back a year stronger and a year more seasoned, including OLs Mairs, Vargas and Goodman. WR Grigsby will help break in whoever starts behind center.

11-MAN New Schools

NEW BRAUNFELS LONG CREEK DRAGONS

Coach: Adam Harvey. First-year varsity program.

Players to watch: RB Michael Martinez (5-7, 178, 4.6), WR Tabias Collazo (6-1, 192, 4.5), QB JJ Baerwald (5-8, 158, 4.7), DE/OLB Max Wipf (6-3, 202, 4.8), DB Dante Garcia (5-6, 131, 4.8), LB Briggs Hamilton (5-9, 172, 4.9), TE Coy White (6-4, 227, 4.7).

2025 notes: After a strong 6-4 season playing junior varsity, Long Creek — the second high school in New Braunfels ISD — will try its hand at an outlast varsity schedule. Coach Harvey knows his team may take some lumps, but anticipates the experience will be invaluable when the Dragons are aligned in a UIL district for the first time in 2026. Long Creek should not lack for playmakers: QB Baerwald, WR Collazo and RB Martinez will give the Dragons some firepower. The defense — Harvey's calling card, as the former co-DC at Schertz Clemens — will rely on DE/OLB Wipf off the edge and DB Garcia on the back end.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I — District 1

WACO VANGUARD VIKINGS

Coach: Brian Schupbach. Lettermen R/L: 24/2. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 6-4/0-3 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Drew Howard (6-0, 180, 4.8), WR/DB Owen Peters (5-11, 170, 4.8), TE/LB Cooper Borg (6-2, 200, 4.9). Top juniors: RB Tristan Latino (6-3, 190, 4.7), ATH Braylen Schupbach (6-0, 170, 4.8). Top sophomore: OL/DL Evan Ochoa (5-11, 200, 5.0).

Other prospects: OL/DL Sammy Horner.

2025 notes: The Vikings go from the hunter to the hunted in 2025, and Schupbach thinks his veteran squad is ready for the challenge. A dynamic offense certainly looks ready; RB Latino (1,400 yards rushing, 211 yards receiving) serves as the primary weapon at spreadback, and ATH Schupbach (525 yards rushing, 430 yards passing, 337 yards receiving; 61 tackles) "can fill many holes on the team," says his coach and dad.

MIDLAND TRINITY CHARGERS

Coach: Gregory Koch. Lettermen R/L: 15/8. Starters returning O/D: 0/3. 2024: 9-3/3-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/DB Jaydan Hoffman (6-5, 165, 4.8), RB/LB Patrick McHale (5-8, 155, 4.7), ATH Jordan Kaczor (6-3, 170, 4.7). Top juniors: LB Dan Hill (5-6, 140, 4.8). Top sophomore: TE/DL Toni Sanni (6-1, 185, 4.9).

Other prospects: RB/LB Kasen Shepard, DL/LB Lucas Alvarado, ATH Gavin Galvan, ATH Kobi Orji, OL/DL Jay Anguiano, ATH Hayden Weisenfels, WR/DB Quin Detert.

2025 notes: The Chargers lost most of their starters from last season, as well as most of their seniors. But there's plenty of youthful talent on the roster, starting with lanky QB/DB Hoffman (1,793 yards rushing), who took over as the spreadback last season after Koch tweaked his offense. A healthy RB/LB McHale (23 tackles, 3 INTs) will help, too; he flashed star power before getting injured late last season. Midland Trinity also welcomes back ATH Kaczor from injury.

CARROLLTON PRINCE OF PEACE EAGLES

Coach: Trevor Abbott. Lettermen R/L: 5/11. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 5-4/1-2 district.

Players to watch: C Owen Bain (6-3, 230), QB Tripp Wilcoxson (6-3, 180), LB Nathan Paradowski (6-0, 185).

2025 notes: Big things are on the horizon for Prince of Peace, says second-year coach Abbott. When he arrived on campus, there were nine varsity players by the end of the season. Now? Abbott thinks he may have 30 varsity players, and the middle-school program is moving to 11-man football. "Big things are coming," says the coach. This season, C Bain and QB Wilcoxson (575 yards, 8 TDs passing) seem poised for big things, especially since Wilcoxson didn't even play two full games a year ago.

FORT WORTH TEMPLE CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Jeremy Bailey. Lettermen R/L: 10/10. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 2-9/1-4 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Sid Roberts (6-2, 215, 5.5). Top juniors: WR/DB Kaden Conner, RB/LB Asher Trotter. Top sophomore: RB/LB Tyrin Starks.

Other prospects: RB/LB Emmett Dyson, OL/DL Tommy Case, RB/DB Enzo Lopez, WR/DB Bryson Rife, RB/LB Jackson Flores.

2025 notes: After banging its head against the competition with just a handful of players, Temple Christian makes the move to six-man football. It should pay immediate dividends, considering the Eagles had just 21 players last season. TE/DL Roberts returns as one of the team leaders, and speedy WR/DB Conner and RB/LB Trotter could thrive in the faster six-man game. The team will need its young players to develop quickly, as more than half the squad could be underclassmen.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I — District 2

ROUND ROCK CHRISTIAN CRUSADERS

Coach: Matt Tarbutton. Lettermen R/L: 10/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 2-8/0-3 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Joey Berenguel (5-8, 155, 4.6), RB/LB Jake Brown (5-7, 140, 4.8), TE/DL Caleb Womack (6-2, 200, 4.9), QB/DB Josiah Headley (5-10, 135, 4.7).

2025 notes: After enduring a wave of injuries a year ago, the Crusaders "should be better this season," says the coach. Several young players had to get familiar with new positions in order to plug the gaps last season, and that versatility could pay off in 2025. Speedy RB/LB Berenguel, a track star, starts on both sides of the ball and teams with classmate RB/LB Brown to form a potent backfield combination. TE/DL Womack can play multiple positions up front, and QB/DB Headley will take over behind center.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I — District 3

SAN ANTONIO ST. MARY'S HALL BARONS

Coach: Eddie Spencer. Lettermen R/L: 11/8. Starters returning O/D: 1/4. 2024: 6-4/1-2 district.

Players to watch: DL John Ash (6-1, 195), WR/LB Nikko Moreno (5-10, 175), RB/DL Bear Mayberry (5-8, 160), WR Joshua Hoover (6-1, 155, 4.4). Top juniors: QB/DB Steven Gates (5-10, 155), WR/DB Owen Colwell (5-9, 150).

Other prospects: RB/DB Christian Payton.

2025 notes: The defense may have to carry a heavy load, especially early in the season as an inexperienced offense finds its stride. But the Barons look well-equipped to do just that; DL Ash (112 tackles, 7 sacks) earned all-state honors as a freshman in 2024, and WR/LB Moreno (94 tackles, 3 INTs) boasts sideline-to-sideline range. RB/DL Mayberry (87 tackles) is another force on defense, but he may see extended snaps at running back.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I — District 4

PASADENA FIRST BAPTIST WARRIORS

Coach: Justin Larsen. Lettermen R/L: 5/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 13-0 TAPPS 6M DI state champion/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/DL Liam Larsen (5-10, 170), C/DL Gabriel Richard, QB/DB Cole Larsen, TE/DL Spencer Harris. Top juniors: RB/DB Nathan Espinoza. Top sophomore: ATH Austin McQuigan.

2025 notes: Is First Baptist still the class of six-man football in the Houston area? Larsen thinks his team can prove it again, especially with RB/DL Larsen as an anchor on both sides of the ball. C/DL Richard helped the team run for 1,244 yards and 28 touchdowns a year ago, and RB/DB Espinoza averaged almost 11 yards per carry last season. The development of sophomore QB/DB Larsen could be a key to the Warriors' chances of defending their title.

HOUSTON EMERY-WEINER JAGUARS

Coach: Samuel Castello. Lettermen R/L: 8/8. Starters returning O/D: 1/5. 2024: 9-2/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Sasha Fiterman (5-9, 150, 4.7), RB/LB Harrison Zimmerman (6-0, 195, 4.9), DL Guy Shafran (6-0, 170, 4.7), DB Ryan Callahan (5-10, 160, 4.8), RB Nathan Valk (5-9, 175, 4.6), DB Blake Saikin (6-0, 180, 4.7). Top juniors: QB Nathan Kalmin (6-0, 190, 4.9), DL Kiran Rao (5-8, 180, 4.6).

2025 notes: There's "tons of talent" back on the defensive side of the ball, says Castello, which should help give an offense with a lot of new faces time to find a rhythm. WR/DB Fiterman (659 yards, 15 TDs receiving) earned the district's newcomer of the year award

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last season and will anchor both sides of the ball, and RB/LB Zimmerman (98 tackles) enters his fourth season as a defensive starter. DL Shafran (61 tackles) had 24.5 tackles for a loss last season and returns as a disruptive force.

HOUSTON WESTBURY CHRISTIAN WILDCATS

Coach: Kenneth Okwuonu. Lettermen R/L: 13/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 9-3/2-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Paxton Thompkins (6-0, 185), OL Jordan Whittaker (6-0, 215). Top juniors: RB/DB Benjamin Lopez (5-11, 185). Top sophomore: RB Drake Caesar (6-1, 205).

2025 notes: Okwuonu appreciates the irony when describing this year's team. The Wildcats' biggest concern? A lot of young players, says the coach. And the team's biggest strength? A lot of young players with huge potential. That crop of pigskin prodigies includes RB Caesar (545 yards, 10 TDs rushing), a gifted athlete with prototypical size. Fortunately, the Wildcats can lean on a pair of seniors for leadership in LB Thompkins (51 tackles) and OL Whittaker.

SUGAR LAND LOGOS PREP LIONS

Coach: Kevin Edelbrock. Lettermen R/L: 15/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 2-7/0-4 district.

Players to watch: ATH Caleb Sedgwick (6-1, 180, 4.7), DL Grant Edelbrock (6-0, 175, 4.8), WR/DB Mason Allen (6-0, 155, 4.8), RB/LB Ethan Ivey (5-6, 155, 4.9). Top juniors: DL Zane Miller (6-2, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Lions may be the smallest school in TAPPS 5A, but they have a mighty senior class. That talent and experience may help them survive the most challenging district in the state that features the past three state champions. ATH Sedgwick (616 yards, 8 TDs receiving; 289 yards passing; 238 yards rushing) is fully healthy after enduring some injuries as a junior, and disruptive DL Edelbrock also looks raring to go after missing all but four games a year ago.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II - District 1

FORT WORTH COVENANT CLASSICAL CAVALIERS

Coach: Jeremy Martin. Lettermen R/L: 10/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/5. 2024: 10-3/3-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Howard Wade (6-0, 170, 4.9), QB Noah Keyes (6-1, 170, 5.0), RB/DL Malachi Brown (6-1, 185, 4.9).

2025 notes: The right Cavalier attitude carried Covenant Classic to a 10-win season in 2024, and Martin says "the love each guy has for (his) teammate" remains a team strength. Martin loves that the combination of QB Keyes (2,268 yards, 44 TDs passing) and WR Wade (781 yards, 16 TDs receiving) both return, especially since Keyes racked up those numbers as a freshman. RB/DL Brown (408 yards rushing, 218 yards receiving; 59 tackles) will get his touches on offense and also leads the defense.

ABILENE CHRISTIAN PANTHERS

Coach: Kirk Wade. Lettermen R/L: 12/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 6-4/3-1 district.

Players to watch: QB Pierson Walters (5-9, 165), RB Caleb Thyne (5-8, 170), WR Levi Sheets (6-0, 170), DL Ja'Vonne Jones (6-1, 250), DB Nate Presley (5-7, 135), WR Will Sheets (5-10, 150). Top juniors: DL Everett Martin (6-2, 250), LB Jake Swenson (5-9, 170). Top sophomore: DB Noah Buford (5-9, 145).

Other prospects: LB Mateo Flores, LB Boston Bailey, DL Tag Burton.

2025 notes: A big senior class boasts lots of experience, which has Wade confident that the Panthers can claw their way to the playoffs. QB Walters (1,700 yards, 26 TDs passing; 734 yards, 11 TDs rushing) is one of those seniors, and he can beat a defense with his arm or legs. Classmates WR Levi Sheets and RB Thyne are familiar weapons for Walters. The defense

lost some key players, but big DL Jones (4 sacks) could help fill the void.

NAZARENE CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Jesse Erhart. Lettermen R/L: 8/4. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 8-4/3-1 district.

Players to watch: LB Luke Scarbrough (5-11, 165, 4.9), WR Carson Drury (6-1, 180, 4.9), QB/DB Cristian Adams (5-10, 145, 4.8), RB/DL Jake Scarbrough (5-10, 160, 4.8), RB/DL Wyatt Bigham (5-0, 170, 4.8), RB Gaddielle Nakitare (5-11, 165, 4.7).

2025 notes: Graduation sapped some size from the roster, but Erhart says his team still has plenty of speed on both sides of the ball. The offensive backfield looks imposing with QB/DB Adams, RB/DL Jake Scarbrough and RB Nakitare all back. Focus on stopping the run, and WR Drury can beat a lot of DBs down the field. Defensively, LB Luke Scarbrough (126 tackles) showed plenty of toughness and moxie as a sophomore in 2024 and could be even better.

WEATHERFORD CHRISTIAN LIONS

Coach: Colt Jones. Lettermen R/L: 12/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 0-10/0-4 district.

2025 notes: After going 11-2 in his first season leading the Lions, Jones endured a winless campaign in 2024. He says at least a dozen players are returning, which bolsters hopes for a quick rebound. But Jones doesn't quite know who's back at what positions, which makes for a summer of uncertainty. What new stars will shine for Weatherford Christian? We'll all find out when the season opens.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II - District 2

PRESTONWOOD NORTH LIONS

Coach: Shawn Purcell. Lettermen R/L: 7/13. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 10-3/5-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Cole McCaffree (6-3, 210), QB/LB Peyton McDoland (6-1, 185), TE/LB Carson Thornberry (6-3, 210), LB Ethan Elliott (5-9, 185), RB/LB Wyatt Pointer (5-11, 180), WR/DB Tyler Teague (5-8, 165). Top juniors: RB/LB Rocco Leydig (5-10, 180), TE/LB Kaden Johnson (6-0, 205). Top sophomore: RB/DB Neyland Harris.

Other prospects: QB/DB Collin Schneider, WR/DB Noah Pettett, RB/LB Caleb Dysart, OL/DL Marcus Price, WR/DB John Asher Flores.

2025 notes: Graduation took a toll on the program, but Purcell thinks the quality of the returning players can help make up for the quantity of lost players. Those quality players start with WR/LB McCaffree (360 yards receiving; 44 tackles), a three-year starter on both sides of the ball. QB/LB McDoland will also start on both sides of the ball, although this will be his first full year behind center. If the Lions need a big hit to set a physical tone, TE/LB Thornberry will likely deliver.

DECATUR VICTORY CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS

Coach: Nathan Geiger. Lettermen R/L: 2/8. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 8-3/5-1 district.

Players to watch: RB Jaylen Donald (5-10, 140), LB Luke Wood (5-8, 130).

2025 notes: Graduation sapped the program of most of the players from a successful three-year run, and Geiger admits that "this will be a little bit of a rebuild year." But while the Patriots may be young, they have a lot of team speed, which should help keep them competitive. RB Donald (2,500 yards, 25 TDs rushing) will be the focal point after a breakout freshman season in 2024, and LB Wood is another sophomore with a bright future.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II - District 3

ROCKWALL HERITAGE CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Don McEvoy. Lettermen R/L: 15/1. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 10-1/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Carson Taylor (6-0, 165, 4.7), WR/DB Hudson Mullen, K Elijah Deen, OL/DL Matt McGriff, RB/LB Colton Westmoreland, RB/LB Caden Westmoreland. Top juniors: RB/DL Grayson Wurtz. Top sophomore: QB/DB Thomas Oliphant.

2025 notes: Heritage loses just one player from last year's playoff team, and 11 of its 15 returning players will be seniors. That should add up to more postseason success in 2025, said McEvoy. That's especially true when you add RB/LB Taylor (1,718 yards, 47 TDs rushing) to the equation along with WR/DB Mullen (50 tackles, 7 INTs). Keep two eyes on RB/LB Colton and Caden Westmoreland, a pair of twins who will rarely leave the field.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II - District 4

MARBLE FALLS FAITH ACADEMY FLAMES

Coach: James Silvers. Lettermen R/L: 13/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-6/3-0 district.

Players to watch: ATH Andrew Houy, ATH Landon Silvers, ATH Wade Dillard, ATH Adam Merlick, DB Price Rosamond. Top juniors: OL/LB Cooper Hansard, OL/DL Max Worner. Top sophomore: DB/K Egan Barnes.

Other prospects: WR/DB Graham McGraw, OL/DL Sawyer Jones.

2025 notes: The Flames may lack some size and experience, but they boast plenty of speed and versatility. If the line can clear some room for athletes such as Houy (1,296 yards, 23 TDs passing; 951 yards, 19 TDs rushing), Silvers (464 yards, 7 TDs receiving) and Dillard, the offense could again put up lots of points. Those players also play critical roles on defense. Coach James Silvers says the quick development of young players such as OL/DL Worner will be critical.

SAN MARCOS BAPTIST BEARS

Coach: Jeremy Crauthers. Lettermen R/L: 15/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-7/1-1 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Daniel Yates (6-4, 175, 4.9), OL/DL Abraham Richardson (6-2, 225). Top juniors: ATH Caleb Armstrong (5-7, 175), WR/DB Rye Roberts (5-7, 150). Top sophomore: QB Major Howard (5-5, 135).

Other prospects: ATH David Followell, ATH Jaxon Shoemaker.

2025 notes: Now in his second season with the program, Crauthers knows his team lacks size. But he likes the team's versatility, and he loves the athleticism that has allowed him to open up the playbook. "We can put anyone anywhere and hit you with a lot of different looks," he said. "It should be exciting to see the new system enter its second year." No one is more exciting than WR/DB Yates, a long and lean playmaker who gets downfield. OL/DL Richardson provides the muscle up front.

BULVERDE BRACKEN CHRISTIAN WARRIORS

Coach: Anthony Bryson. Lettermen R/L: 10/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/1-2 district.

Players to watch: QB Jack Burggraaf (6-0, 150), RB Carson Echt (5-7, 140), LB Hudson Weakly (5-7, 170), DL Gunner Clark (6-1, 180).

2025 notes: The Warriors took some lumps last season after renewing the program following a two-year absence, but Bryson thinks they can "take a big step forward" in his first season. Having a veteran quarterback certainly bolsters the confidence; QB Burggraaf (1,445 yards, 24 TDs passing) returns after an impressive sophomore season, and he'll be joined by returning sophomore RB Echt (424 yards rushing, 160 yards receiving, 8 total TDs).

TAPPS 6M DIVISION II - District 5

HUNTSVILLE ALPHA OMEGA LIONS

Coach: Jeff Norris. Lettermen R/L: 11/8. Starters returning O/D: 5/2. 2024: 12-2/3-0 district.

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Players to watch: WR/DB Hudson Ramey (6-5, 185), TE Colton Sikes (6-0, 170), DE Tristin Webb (6-2, 215), QB Case Collum (5-11, 180), OL Jesse Peach (6-2, 200). Top juniors: RB/LB Cameron Stealy (5-10, 190), K Daniel Arredondo (5-11, 160), RB/DB Austin McCafferty (5-9, 160), ATH Isaac Thompson.

2025 notes: Few teams in their league can match the Lions' firepower in the passing game. QB Collum (1,245 yards, 20 TDs passing) returns after seizing the starting job midway through his freshman season in 2024, and WR/DB Ramey (770 yards, 12 TDs receiving; 115 tackles) and TE Sikes (906 yards, 16 TDs receiving) both are back. Alpha Omega boasts some proven talent up front, with all-state DL Webb back at defensive edge and all-state OL Peach leading his unit from the center spot.

BRYAN ALLEN ACADEMY RAMS

Coach: Alex Simpson. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 5-5/2-1 district.

Players to watch: ATH Brock Field (6-1, 190, 4.6), OL/DL Logan Perez (5-10, 175, 4.7), QB Sawyer Mariott (5-10, 160, 4.9), WR/DB Hudson Mariott (5-9, 135, 4.7), WR/DB Mario Pocurull (5-8, 140, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Rams face some challenges as they charge into a new season, but the coach thinks good team chemistry and several elite playmakers can help make up for a lack of numbers. Versatile ATH Field (1,110 yards, 19 TDs passing; 586 yards rushing; 77 tackles) can win a game in a variety of ways, and OL/DL Perez (65 tackles) stars as a center who can get downfield on offense and into the backfield on defense. If QB Sawyer Mariott keeps developing behind center, he'll free up Field even more.

BEAUMONT LEGACY CHRISTIAN WARRIORS

Coach: Shannon Smith. Lettermen R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 5/6. 2024: 3-9/1-2 district.

Players to watch: LB Jackson Short (6-0, 170), DL Ben Kirkendall (6-0, 180), DL Gannon Sigler (5-10, 200), WR Jaden Rizzato (5-10, 170), WR Disiah Jones (5-9, 165), RB David Dickerson (5-9, 175).

2025 notes: Sure, the Warriors need to find a new quarterback and try and find their stride on a rebuilt offense. But a veteran defense that's "fast and full of big hitters" should carry the team while the offense discovers its rhythm, says Smith. LB Short (61 tackles) leads the unit, and DLs Kirkendall (22 tackles) and Sigler (13 tackles) form an impressive pair of bookend edges. The skill positions look like strengths with WRs Rizzato and Jones, as well as RB Dickerson.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III - District 1

LUBBOCK KINGDOM PREP WARRIORS

Coach: Peter Griffith. Lettermen R/L: 7/5. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 10-2/3-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Brasher Henry (5-8, 165), ATH Lincoln Riddle (5-10, 165), RB/DL Garrett Holtzman (5-7, 180), RB/DL Michael Jonas (6-2, 190), RB/DB/K David Pendergrass (5-9, 180). Top juniors: WR/DB Max Crews (6-1, 180). Top sophomore: OL/DL Trevyn Sheppard (5-9, 185).

Other prospects: RB/LB Aiden Sheets, QB Jacob Farmer, WR/DB Jax Shepard, WR/LB Hogan Riddle, OL/DL Hutch Overton.

2025 notes: Coaching stability and a commitment from the community will help the Warriors overcome heavy graduation losses, says Griffith. So will the return of speedy WR/DB Henry (226 yards, 4 TDs receiving), a home-run threat every time he touches the ball. Griffith also has a wild card in ATH Riddle (337 yards, 8 TDs receiving; 70 tackles), who may start at quarterback but can also line up at myriad positions. RB/DL Holtzman (456 yards rushing, 151 yards receiving) sets a physical tone on both sides.

LUBBOCK CHRIST THE KING GOLDEN LIONS

Coach: Corey Porter. Lettermen R/L: 14/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 6-5/1-2 district.

Players to watch: TE Chris Mendez, RB/LB John Sis-

neros, RB/DB Oliver James, WR/DB Isaiah Reyes, TE/DL Eric Carroll, RB/DB Andrew Blazek, QB Matthew Sisneros. Top juniors: OL/DL Ethan Blazek, OL/DL Anthony Phan.

2025 notes: The Golden Lions may not have as much depth as their coach would like, but Porter thinks his team's athleticism across the board will keep it in contention for a district title. RB John Sisneros (435 yards, 10 TDs rushing) looks poised for a big junior season, and QB Matthew Sisneros (1,024 yards, 20 TDs passing) returns after picking up valuable experience guiding the offense. The Golden Lions also have a physical downfield threat in TE Mendez (302 yards, 7 TDs).

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III - District 2

WICHITA FALLS CHRISTIAN STARS

Coach: Seth Nolan. Lettermen R/L: 7/6. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 13-0 TAPPS 6M DIII state champion.

Players to watch: OL Luke Pankonien (5-9, 250, 5.3), QB/DB Kason Brown (5-8, 140, 5.1), ATH Kupa Mujuruki.

2025 notes: The Stars welcome in almost an entirely new generation of talent, but Nolan doesn't think the sun is quite ready to set on his program's championship reign. OL Pankonien earned all-state honors as a freshman center, and he's the leader of a group of sophomore linemen that love to spend time in the weight room. QB/DB Brown also returns after starting as a freshman, but he'll need young talent like freshman Mujuruki to quickly adapt to varsity play.

AZLE CHRISTIAN CRUSADERS

Coach: Chad Geeslin. Lettermen R/L: 8/2. Starters returning O/D: 5/4. 2024: 6-4/0-2 district.

Players to watch: WR/DB Brodie Clark (5-8, 150, 4.7), RB/LB Gage Anderson (6-2, 185, 4.9), OL Jacob Rollins (6-1, 180, 4.9), WR/DB Kanon Wyatt (6-0, 150, 4.9), WR Grayson Smith (6-0, 170, 4.7), QB Nehemiah Crowell (6-0, 160, 4.8), DB Eli Smith (5-11, 150, 4.9), QB/RB Jaxon Durham.

2025 notes: Geeslin has won a lot of games during his 18 years leading the Crusaders, but he says this bunch "is probably one of the best groups of kids that I have coached, and I'm excited to see the product that we put on the field." There aren't many receiving duos as exciting as WRs Smith and Clark, and they have an accurate and experienced passer in QB Crowell. The Crusaders will score a lot of points, but Geeslin says they need to improve their tackling if they want to make a postseason run.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III - District 3

LONGVIEW CHRISTIAN HERITAGE SENTINELS

Coach: Grant Gaston. Lettermen R/L: 6/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 11-1/4-0 district.

Players to watch: QB/LB Owen Holcomb (5-9, 185, 4.9), OL/DL Griff Holt (6-2, 200, 5.0), WR/DB Cody Moczybamba (5-9, 150, 4.8), RB/LB Colt Stone (5-7, 150, 5.0).

2025 notes: The Sentinels, a powerhouse program in East Texas, welcome in a new coach in Gaston, who had previously built Boerne Geneva into a perennial contender in the San Antonio area. He'll have to rebuild depth, but Gaston has some established players to work with. QB Holcomb (1,571 yards, 35 TDs; 61 tackles) is a proven winner who can also make plays with his feet when things break down, and he's also a fierce tackler on defense.

SHERMAN TEXOMA CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Matt Townsend. Lettermen R/L: 4/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 3-1/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jake Squires (6-2, 170, 4.6), QB Nate Reed (6-2, 170, 4.6), WR Kade Adley (6-0, 160, 4.5), WR Brody Stokes (5-8, 180, 4.7).

2025 notes: Like most coaches, Townsend would prefer a bit more size and a lot more depth. But his frontline players give the Eagles a chance in every game. QB Reed (591 yards passing, 142 yards rushing, 12 total TDs) can

spin the ball and boasts some dangerous weapons in WRs Adley (200 yards, 4 TDs receiving) and Stokes (206 yards, 3 TDs receiving). Focus on slowing the passing game, and Squires (468 yards, 9 TDs rushing; 179 yards, 2 TDs receiving) can beat a team in myriad ways.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III - District 4

FREDERICKSBURG HERITAGE EAGLES

Coach: Tim Shipman. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 13-1/4-0 district.

Players to watch: OL Gabe Williams (6-0, 230, 5.5), RB Quatro Stewart (5-10, 155, 4.7), RB Wyatt Craven (6-2, 175, 4.9), OL Christian Evans (6-6, 230, 6.3), WR Reese Baker (5-10, 140, 5.0). Top sophomore: QB Zeke Shipman (5-10, 140, 5.0).

2025 notes: When asked why his program has been so good in his 23 years on campus, Shipman says simply: "Consistency, tradition, legacy, hunger." Expect more of the same this season, with OLs Williams and Evans setting a physical tone up front. RBs Stewart and Craven form a nice tandem in the backfield, and WR Baker boasts great hands. If young QB Shipman quickly develops, expect the Eagles to soar back into championship contention.

KERRVILLE OUR LADY OF THE HILLS HAWKS

Coach: Nathaniel Villarreal. Lettermen R/L: 5/4. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-8/0-4 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Alex Flores (5-11, 155), RB/DL Diego Dry (6-0, 160).

Other prospects: OL/DL Ryan Merritt.

2025 notes: The Hawks showed some promise early last season but couldn't manage a win in district play. Villarreal said the squad has some potential. RB/LB Flores plays bigger than his listed size and provides some physicality on both sides of the ball, and RB/DL Dry is a nice change-of-pace back on offense. OL/DL Merritt will lead revamped lines on both sides of the ball.

TAPPS 6M DIVISION III - District 5

BELLVILLE FAITH ACADEMY KNIGHTS

Coach: Trey Carter. Lettermen R/L: 16/3. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 10-2/4-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/WR Jackson Dunn (6-0, 170, 4.5), WR/DB Josh Stark (5-6, 160, 4.7), QB CT Pillow (6-0, 160, 4.7), WR/DE Gage Wilson (6-0, 165, 4.8), OL/LB Wyatt Davis (6-1, 175, 4.8), C Kayden Marcotte (6-0, 225, 5.4), WR/DB/P Dyllan Olivares (5-9, 175, 4.9), OL/DL Riley Heyman (5-9, 200, 5.2), DL/RB Kelton Galle (5-9, 155, 4.7).

2025 notes: The Knights led all of TAPPS six-man football in offense last year, averaging more than 68 points per game. They lost one of six-man's best players in two-way all-state pick Travis Woodley, but the cupboard is far from bare. RB/WR Dunn (1,200 yards rushing, 500 yards receiving, 18 total TDs) earned all-state honors last season, as did WR/DB Stark. QB Pillow (1,500 yards, 22 TDs passing) will be at the controls of the attack. Defensively, OL/LB Davis — the team's leading returning tackler — and WR/DE Wilson will need to step up.

BRYAN ST. JOSEPH EAGLES

Coach: Michael Forgione. Lettermen R/L: 7/6. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 6-6/4-1 district.

Players to watch: WR Colton Bundick, QB Aidan Cruz.

2025 notes: St. Joseph made a second straight run to a state semifinal last season behind QB Aidan Cruz (2,600 yards, 52 TDs passing), who transferred into the program from A&M Consolidated and added a jolt to the team. He's back for one more season along with his favorite target in WR Bundick (1,142 yards, 29 TDs receiving), and Forgione says that combination can lead a young but talented squad. They're "eager to put in the work and seal the deal," Forgione said.

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TAPPS 6M DIVISION III – District 6

LAKE JACKSON BRAZOSPORT CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Ricky Austin. Lettermen R/L: 10/3. Starters returning O/D: 6/5. 2024: 4-7/2-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Tyson Sullivan (6-1, 175, 4.4), WR/DB Kane Knighton (6-3, 150, 4.6), RB/LB James Moore (5-7, 160, 4.6). Top juniors: QB David Kier (5-10, 160, 4.6), WR/DB Aiden Rodriguez (6-1, 165, 4.7). Top sophomore: RB/DL Josiah Burns (5-9, 155, 4.6).

Other prospects: RB Kole Calhoun, RB/DL Hayden Blagg, WR/DB Riot Sullivan.

2025 notes: Austin likes to joke that the Eagles follow the “Three Fs” when it comes to playing football: Fast, physical and fun. But there may be nothing fun for foes this year since the team brings back plenty of talent, including all-state RB/DB Sullivan, a three-way star who scored 12 total TDs a year ago. WR/DB Kane Knighton (259 yards receiving, 87 tackles) is “all heart and hustle” and also earned all-state recognition last season while RB/LB Moore (75 tackles) is “tough as nails.”

BAYTOWN CHRISTIAN BULLDOGS

Coach: Jamari Gilbert. Lettermen R/L: 10/2. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 4-6/1-2 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Jonathan Cornelius (6-2, 220), RB/DL Joseph Cohen (5-10, 200), TE/DL Hank Hartleib (6-4, 240), RB/K Kaden Savage, OL/DL Keenan Wilson (5-10, 210), LB Matthieu Salom (5-10, 180). Top juniors: QB/DL Josiah Murray, DB Shooter Cornett. Top sophomore: WR Noah Savage.

2025 notes: With several alumni on the coaching staff, Gilbert says school pride runs deep in the program. So does talent, starting with bruising RB Cornelius, who wore down defenses while averaging 102 yards rushing per game last season. RB/DL Cohen (570 yards, 13 TDs) is another physical runner who gives the Bulldogs lots of bite in the backfield. TE/DL Hartleib returns as the team’s leading receiver and doubles as a relentless edge rusher, and OL/DL Wilson acts as a coach on the field from the center spot.

TCAF DIVISION I – District 1

IRVING FAUSTINA FALCONS

Coach: Chris Peacock. Lettermen R/L: 20/5. Starters returning O/D: 4/4. 2024: 11-0 TCAF state champion/3-0 district.

Players to watch: WR/LB Kevin Wood (5-11, 185, 4.6), QB/LB Adrian Medina (6-0, 175, 4.9), WR/DL Will Behan (6-3, 170, 4.7), RB/DB Marcos Mollo (5-11, 165, 4.8), WR/DB Joseph Cook (5-10, 160, 4.7), OL/DL Thomas Vanvick (5-11, 215, 5.3). Top juniors: TE/LB Anthony Mulvaney (6-2, 190, 5.2). Top sophomore: QB/LB Nick Jeggle (6-0, 160, 4.9).

2025 notes: Almost the entire team returns after last season’s unbeaten run, which isn’t good news for the Falcons’ foes. QB Medina (996 yards, 14 TDs; 84 tackles) is an efficient field general who threw just one INT a year ago, and he’ll try to find WR/LB Wood (1,014 yards, 16 TDs; 84 tackles). Medina also handles the kicking duties for Faustina, and that could be an overlooked key to the season; Peacock says the Falcons need to improve their special teams if they hope to record another perfect season.

TCAF DIVISION I – District 2

TAYLOR ST. MARY’S RAMS

Coach: Rick Cobia. Lettermen R/L: 8/6. Starters returning O/D: 1/1. 2024: 3-6/3-1 district.

Players to watch: RB/DB Steven Reyes (5-10, 160, 4.9), OL/DL Mikal Rethlake (5-9, 210, 5.2). Top juniors: QB/DB CJ Williams (5-9, 145, 4.7), WR/DB JD Morgan (5-11, 160, 4.7). Top sophomore: TE/DL Joseph Barta (6-0, 210, 5.2).

Other prospects: RB/DB Ridge Loosen, TE/LB Anthony Britten.

2025 notes: Six players that keyed three straight trips to the postseason have graduated, but the Rams still expect to charge back into playoff contention. Seniors such as RB/DB Reyes and OL/DL Rethlake will lead the squad, and QB/DB Williams earned valuable experience last season as a sophomore. But can St. Mary’s develop some of its young players on the run? Keep an eye on sophomores such as TE/OL Barta and RB/DB Loosen as well as promising freshman TE/LB Britten.

T-CAL

CORPUS CHRISTI ANNAPOLIS WARRIORS

Coach: Andres Garcia. Lettermen R/L: 10/5. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 10-0 TCAL DI state champion/4-0 district.

Players to watch: TE/DL Eli Oliver (6-1, 190, 4.9), OL/DL Brogan Easter (6-5, 240, 4.9), WR/DB Oren Prime (5-8, 150, 4.7), TE/LB Jonah Garcia (6-1, 190, 4.9), QB Micah Garcia (6-0, 140), RB/DB Darrian Wallace (5-8, 150, 4.6).

Other prospects: OL/DL Santi Pena, RB/DL Jack Martinez.

2025 notes: You’ve heard that cliché about reloading and not rebuilding? It applies to this Annapolis program, which “can go toe to toe against much bigger teams,” Garcia said. “The heart, dedication and toughness make Warrior football special.” Some young players such as QB Micah Garcia, WR/DB Prime and RB/DB Wallace could step into starring roles, and a handful of senior leaders like TE/DL Oliver return after big seasons for last year’s unbeaten squad.

TAIAO DIVISION I

NORTHSTAR HOMESCHOOL NATURALS

Coach: Jerry North. Lettermen R/L: 17/10. Starters returning O/D: 2/2. 2024: 11-1/1-0 district.

Players to watch: RB/K George Martin (5-8, 155, 4.6), RB/LB Kai Wallace (5-9, 155, 4.4), QB Trip Kuper (5-8, 155, 4.7).

2025 notes: A school essentially taking the place of TAIAO Division I state champion Bulverde Gloria Deo, the Naturals have limited experience but loads of potential. North coached Gloria Deo to a title and will attempt to do the same with this group. Northstar will get a boost with the return of a healthy Martin, who was limited by injuries in 2024 but “will carry the load this season,” says the coach. Martin could provide a needed complement to RB/LB Wallace, perhaps the most explosive player on the team. The staff is excited about the potential of QB Kuper (800 yards passing), a junior who impressed last season.

WACO TEXAS WIND

Coach: Todd Collins. Lettermen R/L: 10/7. Starters returning O/D: 4/2. 2024: 9-1/6-0 district.

Players to watch: QB Rhys Bonow, WR/LB Zane Walker, RB/DL Jon Alexander, DB Caleb Vaughn, WR/DB Andrew Salmans. Top juniors: WR Tristin Bonow, DL Jace Bever. Top sophomore: LB LJ Bailey.

2025 notes: Collins takes over the home-school program and expects Texas Wind to blow back into the postseason. Why the optimism? QB Rhys Bonow (892 yards, 15 TDs passing) enters his third season as the starter behind center, and RB/DL Alexander (five total TDs, 52 tackles) and WR/DB Salmans return as proven playmakers. Defensively, WR/LB Walker (59 tackles) paces the team with sideline-to-sideline speed.

TAIAO DIVISION II

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HOMESCHOOL FALCONS

Coach: Steven Thomas. Lettermen R/L: 8/6. Starters returning O/D: 3/2. 2024: 9-3/7-2 district.

Players to watch: DB Kameen Smith (5-9, 170), DB Matthew Drexler, WR Luke Currie, ATH Noah Ratliff.

2025 notes: Thomas uses simple math when describing the biggest challenge in 2025: “Anytime you lose six

seniors from a six-man football team, it will be tough to replace them.” But the Falcons do possess an enviable set of skill players at receiver and defensive back. Thomas says DB Smith is “one of the best cover corners” in the conference, who also excels at receiver. DB Drexler led the team in interceptions last season, and WR Currie topped 500 yards receiving with 13 touchdowns in just three games.

CORPUS CHRISTI ARLINGTON HEIGHTS LIONS

Coach: Gilbert Arrollo. Lettermen R/L: 14/3. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 7-4/5-0 district.

Players to watch: DL Lane Autrey (5-11, 190), DL Elijah Boehme (5-11, 185), RB Dominic Garza (5-7, 145), RB/QB Tyson Settliff (5-9, 170), RB/DB David Arnold (5-4, 145), RB/DB Edward Eichelberger (5-5, 155). Top juniors: QB Reese Bradshaw (5-8, 140), OL Caden Cowley (6-0, 215). Top sophomore: DL Oliver Butler (6-1, 175).

Other prospects: WR Josiah Bradshaw, DL Zachary Trevino, WR Dean Isbell, DB Yamel Martinez, DL Ethan Gonzalez.

2025 notes: Graduation left a few gaps in the Lions’ roster, but they still look ready to roar to another district title. DLs Autrey and Boehme form arguably the best pair of edge rushers in the district, and QB Bradshaw earned valuable experience as a sophomore in 2024. The backfield looks particularly loaded; RB Garza returns after an impressive sophomore season, and athletic RB/QB Settliff can come in for a change of pace behind center.

TAIAO DIVISION III

GEORGETOWN GRACE ACADEMY GRIFFINS

Coach: Brent Golemon. Lettermen R/L: 7/4. Starters returning O/D: 3/3. 2024: 7-4/3-0 district.

Players to watch: LB Cole Campbell (5-11, 185, 4.8), DL Samuel Moore (6-5, 210, 5.0), QB Bridger Maxwell (5-9, 160, 4.8). Top juniors: DL Ben Leeman (6-3, 190, 5.2). Top sophomore: DL Ben King (6-0, 175, 4.9).

2025 notes: Golemon, a veteran Austin-area coach now in his third season leading the Griffins, says his program “has quickly installed a winning culture.” Those wins should continue with a strong defense and stout special teams, two hallmarks of Golemon’s squads. LB Campbell showed a nose for the ball while averaging nine tackles a game last season, and DL Moore is a force off the edge who also moonlights as a downfield threat on offense.

HILL COUNTY WOLVES

Coach: Jason Knight. Lettermen R/L: 4/7. Starters returning O/D: 2/4. 2024: 2-9/1-5 district.

Players to watch: RB/LB Tristan Knight (5-4, 130, 4.5), QB Connor Knight (5-8, 140, 4.7), FB/LB William O’Daniel (5-7, 155, 4.6), C/NT Mathieu Macher (5-7, 225), TE/S Graham Tear (6-3, 165, 4.8).

2025 notes: If you hear howling down in Itasca, it’s probably these Wolves, who look ready to make a leap this season. RB/LB Knight (1,243 yards, 10 TDs rushing; 2 receiving TDs; 43 tackles, 3 defensive TDs) is diminutive but dangerous, hence his nickname “The Honey Badger.” There are a number of freshmen expected to play big roles, including FB/LB O’Daniel and QB Knight, a dual-threat ideally suited for the six-man game. TE/LB Mitchell, a rare senior, is “a high-motor player with zero quit,” according to his coach.

SAN ANTONIO WINSTON EAGLES

Coach: Steven Yocham. Lettermen R/L: 6/3. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 2-7/2-4 district.

2025 notes: Wins and losses don’t matter as much as life lessons for a school that serves special-needs student-athletes. Yocham says his staff doesn’t institute traditional play installation. Instead, “many times, we have to draw out the play, walk through the play, repeat, repeat, repeat... plays are simple but fundamentals are key.” Yocham also credits his players, saying “the students are resilient and work extremely hard.”

DC
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Private Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Private School **PREVIEWS**

6-MAN Independents

LONGVIEW TRINITY TEXANS

Coach: Austin Blackwell. Lettermen R/L: 11/3. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-5.

Players to watch: RB/LB Patrick Dzudie (6-2, 175), QB/DB Cooper Ivy (6-0, 160), OL/DL Emilio Mendez (5-11, 195), WR Boone Mcaney (6-0, 150), RB/LB Clayton Courington (5-10, 160), OL/DL Zachary Daniel (6-0, 200), LB Van Bowman (5-8, 150), WR Hudson Heath (6-0, 150), WR Grayson King, DL Carson Cummins.

2023 notes: Blackwell, a Trinity alum, is excited about helping resurrect the football program, which was disbanded from 2021-23. He expects senior leaders such as RB/LB Dzudie and OL/DL Mendez to bring back some more wins. The team also boasts some intriguing young talent such as QB/DB Ivy.

MCKINNEY THE CORNERSTONE WARRIORS

Coach: Mike Segleski. Returning varsity program. Players to watch: QB/DB Boaz Van Roekel, LB Jacob Ritter (5-8, 180), Jacob Gerhart (5-7, 180).

2025 notes: Although The Cornerstone doesn't have any

experience since the program is rebooting after several years, Segleski says there's plenty of excitement. The incoming freshman crop led by QB/DB Van Roekel was good in middle school. LB Ritter will provide senior leadership, and RB/LB Gerhardt brings some physicality and speed.

ROCKSPRINGS ANGORAS (65)

Coach: Javier Cardenas. Lettermen R/L: 8/7. Starters returning O/D: 5/5. 2024: 1-7/0-6 district.

Players to watch: OL/DL Aaron Torres (6-1, 220), OL/DL Vicente Torres (5-11, 250), ATH Coy Cottle (5-10, 150), ATH Raul Hernandez (5-9, 150), OL/DL Dylan Medina (5-9, 185), ATH Adrian Rosales (5-11, 165).

2025 notes: Rocksprings is in the process of transitioning from Class 2A to six-man football for the 2026 season and will compete in an outlaw schedule this year. Depth and inexperience will be an issue, but OL/DLs Aaron and Vicente Torres provide size.

CORPUS CHRISTI COASTAL CHRISTIAN BADGERS

Coach: Paul Lisowski. Lettermen R/L: 3/2. Starters returning O/D: 3/4. 2024: 0-9.

Players to watch: DL Isaiah Quinones (5-6, 165, 5.2), WR/DB Maddox Hernandez (6-0, 175, 5.3), LB Justin

Laechlin (6-0, 210), QB Eric Botello (5-9, 150), RB/LB Asher Fieck (5-7, 170), LB Raul Martinez (5-9, 170), LB Justin Laechlin (6-0, 210), RB Jakob Gallardo (5-10, 160), RB/DB Jacob Goetz, OL Phil West, QB/LB Caleb Hoskins, OL/DL Devin Timmerman, LB Colt Lisowski.

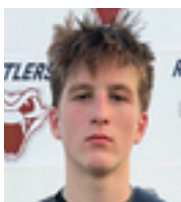
2025 notes: Lisowski thinks the eager underclassmen "have an underdog story in the making." DL Quinones is "relentless and a hard-hitter," while WR/DB Hernandez developed into a team leader in the offseason. LB Justin Laechlin, one of the few seniors, also enjoyed a strong offseason.

WEATHERFORD GRACE CHRISTIAN COLTS

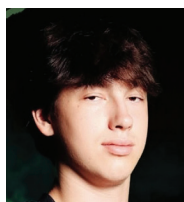
Coach: Rick Smith. Lettermen R/L: 12/2. Starters returning O/D: 6/6. 2024: 2-5.

Players to watch: RB/DB Hayden Ellison (5-8, 170, 4.9), QB/WR Kanton Dyer (6-2, 180, 5.2), WR/LB Brycen Adams (5-10, 145, 4.8), DL/LB Chance Sullivan.

2025 notes: RB/DB Ellison (1,200 yards rushing, 800 yards receiving, 18 TDs) is a versatile playmaker who will rarely leave the field. He'll form a potent one-two punch with QB/WR Dyer (800 yards receiving, 300 yards passing). WR/LB Adams enjoyed a strong freshman season in 2024, and OL/DL Sullivan is a "big boy in the middle," Smith says.



Timmy THAMES
Atlas
Homeschool



Jackson SHORT
Beaumont
Legacy



Zachary RYLE
Bullard
Brook Hill



Isaiah QUINONES
Corpus Christi
Coastal Christian



Ndi ETTA
Colleyville
Covenant



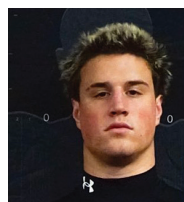
Cooper TIMMONS
Dallas
Bishop Lynch



Kore THOMAS
Dallas
First Baptist



Blake HAMILTON
Fort Bend
Christian



Tucker ASHFORD
Fort Worth
Christian



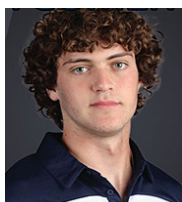
Aaron MORALES
Fort Worth
Nolan



Cooper WITTEN
Argyle
Liberty Christian



Chris MENDEZ
Lubbock
Christ the King



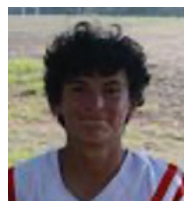
Cody DOW
McKinney
Christian



Jon Anthony LARDIZABAL
Mercy Culture
Prep



Dillan WICKHAM
New Braunfels
Christian



George MARTIN
NorthStar
Homeschool



Matthew McCLAIN
Plano
Prestonwood



Glenn BONNER
Houston
ProVision



John ASH
San Antonio
St. Mary's Hall



Avin HOUSTON
San Antonio
Central Catholic



Sloan GUILLORY
San Antonio
Christian



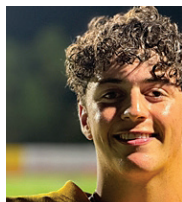
Daniel MAIRS
Somerset
Academy



Grant EDELBROCK
Sugar Land
Logos Prep



Wayne SHANKS JR.
Houston
Kinkaid



Santiago FERNANDEZ
The Woodlands
Christian



Colten RHODEN III
The Woodlands
John Cooper



Andy MUGLESTON
Tyler
T.K. Gorman



Drew HOWARD
Waco
Vanguard

DC
TX

Dave Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

2024 Private School **CHAMPIONS**

TAPPS DIVISION I

Argyle Liberty Christian

COACH: Jason Witten

RECORD: 12-1

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Dallas Parish Episcopal 45-24

TAPPS DIVISION II

Fort Worth All Saints

COACH: Aaron Beck

RECORD: 14-0

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Houston Second Baptist 21-3

TAPPS DIVISION III

Dallas Christian

COACH: Mike Wheeler

RECORD: 11-2

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. San Antonio Holy Cross 21-18

TAPPS DIVISION IV

Dallas First Baptist

COACH: Jason Lovvorn

RECORD: 12-1

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Bryan Brazos Christian 42-15

THIL

Dallas HSAA

COACH: Reggie Davis

RECORD: 10-1

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Northside Lions 48-13

TCSAAL 11-MAN

Houston KIPP Sunnyside

COACH: Jarod Johnson

RECORD: 10-2

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Dallas UME Prep 44-9

SPC 3A

Houston Christian

COACH: AJ Eisenman

RECORD: 8-3

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Fort Worth Trinity Valley 21-12



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David Campbell's
TEXAS FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

2024 Private School **CHAMPIONS**

TAPPS 6M DIVISION I

Pasadena First Baptist

COACH: Justin Larsen

RECORD: 13-0

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Plano Coram Deo 76-36



TAPPS 6M DIVISION II

Fort Worth Covenant Classical

COACH: Wade Jewett

RECORD: 10-3

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Huntsville Alpha Omega 80-32



TAPPS 6M DIVISION III

Wichita Falls Christian

COACH: Seth Nolan

RECORD: 13-0

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Fredericksburg Heritage 52-12



TCAF

Irving Faustina

COACH: Chris Peacock

RECORD: 11-0

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Waco Methodist Children's Home 62-14



T-CAL DIVISION I

Corpus Christi Annapolis

COACH: Andres Garcia

RECORD: 10-0

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. New Braunfels Thunder 61-12



TAIAO DIVISION I

Bulverde Gloria Deo

COACH: Jerry North

RECORD: 11-1

CHAMPIONSHIP: Def. Bryan Christian Homeschool 51-36



OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

SPC 4A — Houston Kinkaid

T-CAL Division II — San Antonio Sunnybrook

TAIAO Division II — Lantana Harvest Christian

TAIAO Division III — Granbury Grace Classical

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HIGH SCHOOL
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

UIL High School **RECORD BOOK**

For the complete Texas high school football record book, visit TexasFootball.com/Records. Six-man records courtesy Leman Saunders. Have a record to add or see an error? Contact greg.tepper@davecampbells.com.

SINGLE-GAME RUSHING YARDS

599 — Matt Gadek, McKinney vs. Plano East, 2017
587 — Daryl Ellis, Somerville vs. Thrall, 1998
580 — Daimarqua Foster, WF Hirschi vs. Decatur, 2017
(6M) 621 — Tony Diaz, Paint Rock vs. Novice, 2010

SINGLE-SEASON RUSHING YARDS

4,045 — Kenneth Hall, Sugar Land, 1953
3,890 — Trey Williams, Spring Dekaney, 2011
3,888 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2011
(6M) 4,081 — Jake Richards, Motley County, 2019

CAREER RUSHING YARDS

11,232 — Kenneth Hall, Sugar Land, 1950-53
10,889 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2008-11
10,298 — Traylon Shead, Cayuga, 2006-09
(6M) 11,866 — Lance Morris, Ira, 2009-12

SINGLE-GAME RUSHING CARRIES

62 — Steve Williams, Trinidad vs. Oakwood, 1977
60 — Chris Nelms, Teague vs. Groesbeck, 1998
60 — Scott Hutchinson, Dumas vs. Levelland, 1976
(6M) 48 — Ben Crockett, McLean, 1919

SINGLE-SEASON RUSHING CARRIES

498 — David Mora, Mason, 2010
475 — Ketric Sanford, Corsicana, 1994
441 — Jeff Godley, Arlington Houston, 1990
441 — Billy Sims, Hooks, 1973
(6M) 337 — Bryan Griffin, Mozelle, 1983

CAREER RUSHING CARRIES

1,218 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2008-11
1,134 — Jacquizz Rodgers, Lamar Consol., 2004-07
1,131 — Robert Strait, Cuero, 1985-88
(6M) 828 — Lance Morris, Ira, 2009-12

SINGLE-SEASON RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

65 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2011
59 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2010
58 — Joseph Sadler, Devine, 2011
(6M) 82 — Zack Nickerson, Oakwood, 2022

SINGLE-GAME RECEPTIONS

24 — Matthew Jones, El Paso Eastlake vs. Lubbock Monterey, 2019
23 — Kyle Parker, Lovejoy vs. Argyle, 2022
22 — Xylan Williams, Bay City vs. Navasota, 2023
22 — Sammy Taylor, Dublin vs. Ranger, 1980
(6M) 23 — Sean Estes, Rochelle vs. Lohn, 2022

SINGLE-SEASON RECEPTIONS

153 — Jason Bird, Lake Travis, 2007
143 — Jared Reagan, Booker, 2013
138 — Ethan Sanford, Bells, 2014
(6M) 94 — Jaren Brooks, Grandfalls-Royalty, 2016

CAREER RECEPTIONS

391 — Jared Reagan, Booker, 2011-14
350 — Hunter Hawthorne, Bells, 2014-17
308 — Jake Oliver, Dallas Jesuit, 2009-12
(6M) 161 — Gary Farquhar, Throckmorton, 2009-12

SINGLE-GAME RECEIVING YARDS

454 — Marc Lozoya, Laredo Alexander vs. Eagle Pass Winn, 2013
419 — Yzerick Oliver, Houston Worthing vs. Sweeny, 2013
412 — Cameron O'Banan, Dripping Springs vs. Seguin, 2020
(6M) 334 — Sean Estes, Rochelle vs. Lohn, 2022

SINGLE-SEASON RECEIVING YARDS

2,629 — Marvin Mims, Frisco Lone Star, 2019
2,427 — Cody Cardwell, Stephenville, 1998
2,202 — Philip Beck, Crosby, 2003
(6M) 1,960 — Gary Farquhar, Throckmorton, 2011

CAREER RECEIVING YARDS

5,485 — Marvin Mims, Frisco Lone Star, 2016-19
5,424 — Jordan Shipley, Burnet, 2000-03
5,403 — Jaxon Smith-Njigba, Rockwall, 2016-19
(6M) 4,439 — Gary Farquhar, Throckmorton, 2009-12

SINGLE-GAME TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

8 — Robbie Rhodes, FW Southwest vs. FW Arlington Heights, 2011
7 — Braxton Ashcraft, Robinson vs. Taylor, 2016
(6M) 9 — Sean Estes, Rochelle vs. Lohn, 2022

SINGLE-SEASON TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

39 — Jaydon Smith, Ingleside, 2023
39 — Tren'Davian Dickson, Navasota, 2014
37 — Braxton Ashcraft, Robinson, 2016
(6M) 45 — Jaren Brooks, Grandfalls-Royalty, 2016

CAREER TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS

76 — Tren'Davian Dickson, Navasota, 2012-15
73 — Jordan Shipley, Burnet, 2000-03
63 — Jaxon Smith-Njigba, Rockwall, 2016-19
(6M) 75 — Gary Farquhar, Throckmorton, 2009-11

SINGLE-GAME PASSING YARDS

789 — Peyton Bevel, Stamford vs. DeLeon, 2018
725 — Mike Richardson, Marble Falls vs. Boerne Champion, 2012
719 — Will Hammond, Hutto vs. Liberty Hill, 2023
(6M) 845 — Harrison Nowak, Strawn vs. Gustine, 2014

SINGLE-SEASON PASSING YARDS (GAMES)

5,617 — Nick Gerber, Levelland (14), 2016
5,557 — Travis Quintanilla, Refugio (16), 2013
5,444 — Shelton Eppler, Navasota (16), 2014
(6M) 3,946 — Tristen Hayes, Crowell (13), 2016

CAREER PASSING YARDS

14,408 — Hunter Lile, Booker, 2011-14
14,223 — Travis Quintanilla, Refugio, 2011-13
13,222 — Andrew Body, Corpus Christi Miller, 2017-20
(6M) 10,681 — Tyler Ethridge, Richland Springs, 2004-07

SINGLE-GAME PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

12 — Peyton Bevel, Stamford vs. DeLeon, 2018
11 — Bryan Ponder, Bells vs. Trenton, 2017
10 — Jacob Frazier, Magnolia vs. Tomball, 2016
10 — Travis Quintanilla, Refugio vs. Taft, 2012
(6M) 15 — Harrison Nowak, Strawn vs. Gustine, 2014

SINGLE-SEASON PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

77 — Nick Gerber, Levelland, 2016
71 — Shelton Eppler, Navasota, 2014
68 — Travis Quintanilla, Refugio, 2013
(6M) 72 — Dylan Straley, Lometa, 2011

CAREER PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

186 — Travis Quintanilla, Refugio, 2011-13
167 — Graham Harrell, Ennis, 2000-03
162 — Hunter Lile, Booker, 2011-14
(6M) 230 — Tyler Ethridge, Richland Springs, 2004-07

SINGLE-GAME PASSING ATTEMPTS

75 — Johnny Manziel, Kerrville Tivy vs. San Antonio Madison, 2010
74 — Koby Love, Alamo Heights vs. Lockhart, 2019
74 — R.J. Martinez, Round Rock Westwood vs. Round Rock Cedar Ridge, 2019
(6M) 68 — Tristen Hayes, Crowell vs. Richland Springs, 2016

SINGLE-SEASON PASSING ATTEMPTS

586 — Derrick Ponder, Bells, 2014
556 — Garrett Gilbert, Lake Travis, 2007
539 — Aaron Brown, Gilmer, 2016

CAREER PASSING ATTEMPTS

1,677 — Hunter Lile, Booker, 2011-14
1,577 — Drew Tate, Baytown Lee, 1999-2002
1,508 — Derrick Ponder, Bells, 2013-15
(6M) 918 — Jamie Humphries, Panther Creek, 1988-90

SINGLE-GAME PASSING COMPLETIONS

50 — R.J. Martinez, Round Rock Westwood vs. Round Rock Cedar Ridge, 2019
50 — Paul Millard, Flower Mound vs. Coppell, 2009
49 — Austin Phillips, Wolforth Frenship vs. Amarillo, 2018
(6M) 34 — Jalen Helms, Grandfalls-Royalty vs. Guthrie, 2016

SINGLE-SEASON PASSING COMPLETIONS

378 — Logan Jenkins, Collinsville, 2023
360 — Garrett Gilbert, Lake Travis, 2007
352 — Aaron Brown, Gilmer, 2016
(6M) 277 — Jeff Hill, Westbrook, 1995

CAREER PASSING COMPLETIONS

1,047 — Hunter Lile, Booker, 2011-14
970 — Drew Tate, Baytown Lee, 1999-2002
933 — Derrick Ponder, Bells, 2013-15
(6M) 521 — Tyler Ethridge, Richland Springs, 2004-07

SINGLE-GAME SCORING

75 — Jiggs Ray, Pilot Point vs. Tom Bean, 1937
60 — Librado Carrillo, Freer vs. Three Rivers, 2016
60 — Jim Hahn, Spur vs. Lorenzo, 1930

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TEXAS FOOTBALL

DAVE CAMPBELL'S
HIGH SCHOOL
RECORD BOOK

UIL High School **RECORD BOOK**

SINGLE-SEASON SCORING, 1920-50

318 — Dick Todd, Crowell, 1934
291 — Glenn Lippman, El Campo, 1947
269 — Dean Bagley, San Saba, 1937

SINGLE-SEASON SCORING, 1951-PRESENT

451 — Joseph Sadler, Devine, 2011
420 — Jonathon Brooks, Hallettsville, 2020
420 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2011

CAREER SCORING

1,232 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2008-11
924 — Hayden Martinez, Iola, 2011-14
899 — Kenneth Hall, Sugar Land, 1950-53

CAREER TOUCHDOWNS

205 — Johnathan Gray, Aledo, 2008-11
154 — Hayden Martinez, Iola, 2011-14
146 — Traylon Shead, Cayuga, 2006-09

SINGLE-GAME PATS

14 — Raymond Dodd, Wink vs. Sanderson, 1981
13 — Sebastian Sneed, Geronimo Navarro vs. Austin Eastside, 2023
13 — Jabo Leonard, Barbers Hill vs. Deweyville, 1971
(6M) 12 — Alex Castillo, Leverett's Chapel vs. Savoy, 2014
(6M) 12 — Jared Martin, Richland Springs vs. Balmorhea, 2016

SINGLE-SEASON PATS

132 — Chance Nevarez, Aledo, 2013
124 — Mark Sayegh, Austin Westlake, 2021
110 — Preston Tarpley, Gunter, 2023

CAREER PATS

352 — Armando Chavez, Mart, 2020-23
308 — Adolfo Cordero, Refugio, 2011-13
305 — Chance Nevarez, Aledo, 2011-13

CONSECUTIVE PATS CONVERTED

207 — Chance Nevarez, Aledo, 2011-13
114 — James French, China Spring, 2007-08
111 — Trey McTaggart, Muenster, 2017-18

SINGLE-SEASON FIELD GOALS

25 — Cole Hedlund, Argyle, 2011
24 — Cole Hedlund, Argyle, 2013
21 — Juan Carranco, Dayton, 2011

CAREER FIELD GOALS

58 — Cole Hedlund, Argyle, 2011-13
48 — Tomas Sanchez, FW Arlington Heights, 1995-98
42 — Juan Carranco, Dayton, 2010-12
42 — Garrett Hartley, Southlake Carroll, 2001-03

LONGEST FIELD GOAL

62 — David Leaverton, Midland vs. Odessa Permian, 1995
62 — Ralph Heaten, El Paso Irvin vs. El Paso Bowie, 1992
62 — Russell Wheatley, Odessa Permian vs. Longview, 1975
(6M) 47 — Ray Wells, Blackwell vs. Ira, 1987

LONGEST PUNT

97 — Gary Bolen, McCamey vs. Stanton, 1969
96 — Jim Rager, Dallas Lynch vs. Duncanville, 1965
96 — Bill Paul, Abilene vs. Brownwood, 1950

SINGLE-GAME INTERCEPTIONS

7 — Donald Moore, Splendora vs. New Waverly, 1977
6 — Hoover Puett, Fort Worth Masonic Home, 1948
6 — Roy Zieschang, Bishop, 1955
(6M) 6 — Tony Timmons, Wellman vs. Balmorhea, 1987
(6M) 6 — Trey Richey, Jayton vs. Marathon, 1984

SINGLE-SEASON INTERCEPTIONS

35 — Jim Linnstaeder, Brenham, 1956
24 — Javior Sandoval, Edcouch-Elsa, 1980
23 — Kendall Barrow, High Island, 1979
(6M) 21 — Tony Timmons, Wellman, 1987

CAREER INTERCEPTIONS

59 — Donald Moore, Splendora, 1976-79
55 — Jim Linnstaeder, Brenham, 1956-58
41 — Plez Atkins, Bartlett, 1989-92
(6M) 34 — Bryce Hogue, Throckmorton, 2004-06

LONGEST PUNT RETURN

108 — David Scott, Jasper vs. Silsbee, 1976
105 — Mike McKee, Houston Lee vs. Austin, 1964
105 — Kelvin Mikel, Shepherd vs. Cleveland Tarkington, 1980

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN

109 — Andy Reyna, Laredo Martin vs. Laredo Cigarroa, 2004
109 — Ricky Cannon, Cleveland vs. Livingston, 1997
109 — Brad Williams, Amherst vs. Happy, 1986

LONGEST FIELD GOAL RETURN

109 — David Gonzalez, Sharyland vs. La Joya, 2011
109 — J.C. Hickman, Fredericksburg vs. Wimberley, 2008
109 — Kevin Perkins, San Antonio Highlands vs. San Antonio McCollum, 2006
109 — Brent Cooper, Crandall vs. Palmer, 1986
109 — Harvey Chriswell, Dickinson vs. Clear Lake, 1972

LONGEST BLOCKED PAT RETURN

109 — Lorenzo Foreman, Liberty vs. Splendora, 2004
107 — Daniel Brooks, PL Calhoun vs. CC Ray, 2011
106 — Kelby Clements, Hardin vs. Hull-Daisetta, 2004

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN

109 — Caden Hubbard, Deweyville vs. West Sabine, 2016 (PAT)
109 — Jason Hebert, Klein vs. Klein Forest, 1996
109 — Nelson Jackson, Friona vs. Olton, 1980
(6M) 89 — Jaxon Gay, Chester vs. Calvert, 2022

LONGEST FUMBLE RETURN

105 — Jonathan McCray, West Mesquite vs. Frisco, 2006
102 — Coreyan Gorrer, Port Arthur Lincoln vs. Port Neches-Groves, 2001
102 — Dyone Brooks, Liberty vs. Houston King, 1990
102 — Liam McCarty, Little Elm vs. Decatur, 1996

CAREER COACHING WINS (*: ACTIVE)

490 — Phil Danaher, Corpus Christi Calallen
460 — Randy Allen, Highland Park*
426 — G.A. Moore, Jr., Celina
394 — Gordon Wood, Brownwood
369 — Denney Faith, Albany*
353 — Reginald Samples, Duncanville*
343 — Jim Streety, San Antonio Madison
340 — Dennis Alexander, Daingerfield
325 — Larry Hill, Smithson Valley*
317 — Curtis Barbay, Newton
315 — Charlie Johnston, Childress
313 — Bob Shelton, Buda Hays
310 — Eddy Peach, Arlington Lamar
308 — Tom Nolen, Houston Lamar
307 — Mike Hedrick, Franklin

MOST PROGRAM WINS

900 — Highland Park
844 — Mart
825 — Amarillo
807 — Temple
798 — Refugio
792 — Longview
787 — Brownwood
783 — Plano
782 — Cuero
762 — Albany
756 — Cameron Yoe
755 — Gilmer

MOST STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

12 — Aledo
10 — Carthage
9 — Celina
9 — Katy
9 — Richland Springs
8 — Mart
8 — Southlake Carroll
7 — Abilene
7 — Plano
7 — Brownwood

MOST TITLE GAME APPEARANCES

15 — Mart
15 — Katy
14 — Aledo
12 — Austin Westlake
12 — Celina
11 — Carthage
11 — Converse Judson
11 — Cuero
11 — Odessa Permian
11 — Refugio
11 — Richland Springs
11 — Southlake Carroll
10 — Highland Park
10 — La Marque
10 — Wichita Falls

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STATE CHAMPS

1920

1A: Houston Heights 0, Cleburne 0

1921

1A: Bryan 35, Dallas Oak Cliff 13

1922

1A: Waco 13, Abilene 10

1923

1A: Abilene 3, Waco 0

1924

1A: Dallas Oak Cliff 31, Waco 0

1925

1A: Waco 20, Dallas Forest Avenue 7

1926

1A: Waco 20, Dallas Oak Cliff 7

1927

1A: Waco 21, Abilene 14

B: Anson 3, Marlin 0

1928

1A: Abilene 38, Port Arthur 0

1929

1A: Port Arthur 0, Breckenridge 0

1930

1A: Tyler 25, Amarillo 13

1931

1A: Abilene 13, Beaumont 0

1932

1A: Corsicana 0, Fort Worth Masonic Home 0

1933

1A: Greenville 21, Dallas Tech 0

1934

1A: Amarillo 48, Corpus Christi 0

1935

1A: Amarillo 13, Greenville 7

1936

1A: Amarillo 19, Kerrville 6

1937

1A: Longview 19, Wichita Falls 12

1938

1A: Corpus Christi 20, Lubbock 6

1939

2A: Lubbock 20, Waco 14

1940

2A: Amarillo 20, Temple 7

PVIL 2A: Fort Worth Terrell 26, Austin Anderson 0

1941

2A: Wichita Falls 13, Temple 0

PVIL 2A: Dallas Washington 12, Houston Wheatley 0

1942

2A: Austin 20, Dallas Sunset 7

PVIL 2A: Austin Anderson 40, Paris Gibbons 0

1943

2A: San Angelo 26, Lufkin 13

PVIL 2A: Wichita Falls Washington 7, Hou. Yates 7 (co-champs)

1944

2A: Port Arthur 20, Highland Park 7

PVIL 2A: Houston Wheatley 7, Fort Worth Terrell 6

1945

2A: Highland Park 7, Waco 7

PVIL 2A: Wichita Falls Washington 12, Austin Anderson 2

1946

2A: Odessa 21, San Antonio Jefferson 14

PVIL 2A: Dal. Washington 19, Galv. Central 19 (co-champs)

1947

2A: San Antonio Brackenridge 23, Highland Park 13

PVIL 2A: Fort Worth Terrell 13, Corpus Christi Coles 6

PVIL 1A: Denison 6, Taylor 6 (co-champs)

1948

City: Fort Worth Arlington Heights 20, Houston Lamar 0

2A: Waco 21, Amarillo 0

A: Monahans 14, New Braunfels 0

PVIL 2A: Corpus Christi Cole 6, Dallas Washington 0

PVIL 1A: Denison Terrell 13, Orange Wallace 0

1949

City: San Antonio Jefferson 31, Dallas Sunset 13

2A: Wichita Falls 14, Austin 13

A: Littlefield 13, Mexia 0

PVIL 2A: Dallas Lincoln 13, Port Arthur Lincoln 13 (co-champs)

PVIL 1A: Orange Wallace 34, Victoria Gross 13

1950

City: Dallas Sunset 14, Houston Reagan 6

2A: Wichita Falls 34, Austin 13

A: Wharton 13, Kermit 9

PVIL 2A: Dallas Washington 24, Houston Yates 21

PVIL 1A: San Angelo Blackshear 32, Huntsville Sam Houston 0

1951

4A: Lubbock 14, Baytown 12

3A: Breckenridge 20, Temple 14

2A: Arlington 7, Waco LaVega 0

A: Giddings 25, Newcastle 14

PVIL 2A: Houston Yates 6, Waco Moore 6 (co-champs)

PVIL 1A: Huntsville Sam Houston 7, Hillsboro Peabody 6

1952

4A: Lubbock 12, Baytown 7

3A: Breckenridge 28, Temple 20

2A: Terrell 61, Yoakum 13

A: Wink 26, Deer Park 20

PVIL 3A: Port Arthur Lincoln 38, Dallas Washington 7

PVIL 2A: Amarillo Carver 7, Palestine Lincoln 0

PVIL 1A: Arp Industrial def. Lockhart Carver

1953

4A: Houston Lamar 33, Odessa 7

3A: Port Neches 24, Big Spring 13

2A: Huntsville 40, Ballinger 6

A: Ranger 34, Luling 21

PVIL 3A: Port Arthur Lincoln 38, Dallas Washington 7

PVIL 2A: Corsicana Jackson 19, Abilene Woodson 0

PVIL 1A: Livingston Dunbar def. West Columbia

1954

4A: Abilene 14, Houston Austin 7

3A: Breckenridge 20, Port Neches 7

2A: Phillips 21, Killeen 13

A: Deer Park 26, Albany 6

PVIL 3A: Houston Wheatley 13, Waco Moore 0

PVIL 2A: Orange Wallace 39, Greenville Carver 0

PVIL 1A: Livingston Dunbar 25, College Station 20

1955

4A: Abilene 33, Tyler 13

3A: Port Neches 20, Garland 14

2A: Stamford 34, Hillsboro 7

A: Deer Park 7, Stinnett 0

PVIL 3A: Port Arthur Lincoln 9, Dallas Lincoln 6

PVIL 2A: Baytown Carver 33, Gladewater Weldon 13

PVIL 1A: Rockdale Aycock 21, West 7

1956

4A: Abilene 14, Corpus Christi Ray 0

3A: Garland 3, Nederland 0

2A: Stamford 26, Brady 13

A: Stinnett 35, Hondo 13

PVIL 3A: Austin Anderson 26, Dallas Washington 7

PVIL 2A: Corsicana Jackson 18, Denton Moore 0

PVIL 1A: Sealy County Austin 19, Kaufman Pyle 18

1957

4A: Highland Park 21, Port Arthur 9

3A: Nederland 20, Sweetwater 7

2A: Terrell 41, Brady 6

A: Mart 7, White Oak 7

PVIL 3A: Austin Anderson 22, Dallas Washington 14

PVIL 2A: Corsicana Jackson 46, Denton Moore 0

PVIL 1A: Galena Park Fidelity Manor 29, Vernon Washington 6

1958

4A: Wichita Falls 48, Pasadena 6

3A: Breckenridge 42, Kingsville 14

2A: Stamford 23, Angleton 0

A: White Deer 44, Elgin 22

PVIL 3A: Dallas Washington 35, Houston Washington 0

PVIL 2A: Baytown Carver 17, Denton Moore 14

PVIL 1A: Livingston Dunbar 26, Grand Prairie Dal-Worth 24

1959

4A: Corpus Christi Ray 20, Wichita Falls 6

3A: Breckenridge 20, Cleburne 20

2A: Brady 1, Stamford 0 (Stamford forfeited 19-14 win)

A: Katy 16, Sundown 6

PVIL 3A: Beaumont Hebert 37, Dallas Lincoln 0

PVIL 2A: Bay City Hilliard 22, Fort Worth Kirkpatrick 14

PVIL 1A: West Dunbar 42, Livingston Dunbar 12

1960

4A: Corpus Christi Miller 13, Wichita Falls 6

3A: Brownwood 26, Port Lavaca 6

2A: Denver City 26, Bellville 21

A: Albany 20, Crosby 0

PVIL 4A: Houston Washington 6, Waco Moore 6 (co-champs)

PVIL 3A: Corpus Christi Coles 38, W.F. Washington 21

PVIL 2A: Conroe Washington 16, Midland Carver 6

PVIL 1A: Freeport Lanier 28, West 24

1961

4A: Wichita Falls 21, Galena Park 14

3A: Dumas 6, Nederland 0

2A: Donna 28, Quanah 21

A: Albany 18, Hull-Daisetta 12

PVIL 4A: Austin Anderson 20, Houston Yates 13

PVIL 3A: Baytown Carver 21, Fort Worth Kirkpatrick 6

PVIL 2A: Midland Carver 42, Conroe Washington 16

PVIL 1A: Richardson Hamilton Park 24, Sweeney Carver 0

1962

4A: San Antonio Brackenridge 30, Borger 26

3A: Dumas 14, Pharr 3

2A: Jacksboro 52, Rockdale 0

A: Rotan 39, Ingleside 6

PVIL 4A: Houston Yates 18, Fort Worth Dunbar 15

PVIL 3A: Fort Worth Kirkpatrick 6, Houston Fidelity Manor 0

PVIL 2A: Wharton Training 40, Lubbock Dunbar 6

PVIL 1A: Taylor Price 42, Dayton Colbert 6

1963

4A: Garland 17, Corpus Christi Miller 0

3A: Corsicana 7, Pharr 0

2A: Rockwall 7, Houston Dulles 6

A: Petersburg 20, George West 12

PVIL 4A: Galveston Central 34, Dallas Madison 14

PVIL 3A: Fort Worth Kirkpatrick 46, Gladewater Weldon 14

PVIL 2A: Lubbock Dunbar 19, Conroe Washington 14

PVIL 1A: Smithville Brown 38, Mineola McFarland 6

1964

4A: Garland 26, Galena Park 21

3A: Palestine 24, San Marcos 15

2A: Palacios 12, Marlin 0

A: Archer City 13, Ingleside 6

PVIL 4A: Waco Moore 16, Houston Yates 14

PVIL 3A: Lufkin Dunbar 20, Marlin Washington 7

PVIL 2A: Sherman Douglas 32, Conroe Washington 18

PVIL 1A: Bartlett Washington 8, Garland Carver 6

1965

4A: Odessa Permian 11, San Antonio Lee 6

3A: Brownwood 14, Bridge City 0

2A: Plano 20, Edna 17

A: Willis Point 14, White Deer 0

PVIL 4A: Houston Yates 18, Fort Worth Terrell 0

PVIL 3A: Wichita Falls Washington 31, Nacog. Campbell 0

PVIL 2A: Conroe Washington 33, Sherman Douglas 12

PVIL 1A: Sweeny 21, Cameron Price 14

1966

4A: San Angelo 21, Houston Spring Branch 14

3A: Bridge City 30, McKinney 6

2A: Sweeny 29, Granbury 7

A: Sonora 40, Schulenburg 14

PVIL 4A: Beaumont Hebert 14, Dallas Madison 3

PVIL 3A: Lufkin Dunbar 14, Wichita Falls Washington 7

PVIL 2A: Bay City Hilliard 42, Denton Moore 0

1967

4A: Austin Reagan 20, Abilene Cooper 19

3A: Brownwood 36, El Campo 12

2A: Plano 27, Universal City Randolph 8

A: Tidehaven 7, Clifton 6

PVIL 3A: Lufkin Dunbar 44, Texarkana Dunbar 24

PVIL 2A: Jasper Rowe 50, Hallsville Galilee 35

1968

4A: Austin Reagan 17, Odessa Permian 11

3A: Lubbock Estacado, 14 Refugio 0

2A: Daingerfield 7, Lufkin Dunbar 6

A: Sonora 9, Poth 0

PVIL 3A: Corsicana Jackson 31, Gladewater Weldon 6

1969

4A: Wichita Falls 28, San Antonio Lee 20

3A: Brownwood 34, West Columbia 16

2A: Iowa Park 31, Klein 14

A: Mart 28, Sonora 0

PVIL 3A: Weirgate def. Calvert Spigner

1970

4A: Austin Reagan 21, Odessa Permian 14

3A: Brownwood 14, Cuero 0

2A: Refugio 7, Iowa Park 7

A: Sonora 45, Pflugerville

UIL STATE CHAMPIONS

1974

4A: Brazoswood 22, Mesquite 12
3A: Cuero 19, Gainesville 7
2A: Newton 56, Spearman 26
A: Grapeland 19, Aledo 18
B: Big Sandy 0, Celina 0 (x)
Eight-Man: Follett 28, La Pryor 22
Six-Man: Marathon 60, Cherokee 58

1975

4A: Port Neches-Groves 20, Odessa Permian 10
3A: Ennis 13, Cuero 10
2A: La Grange 27, Childress 6
A: DeLeon 28, Schulenburg 15
B: Big Sandy 28, Groom 2
Eight-Man: Leakey 32, Follett 14
Six-Man: Cherokee 40, Marathon 26

1976

4A: San Antonio Churchill 10, Temple 0
3A: Beaumont Hebert 35, Gainesville 7
2A: Rockdale 23, Childress 6
A: Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill 17, DeLeon 8
B: Gorman 18, Ben Bolt 6
Six-Man: Marathon 62, May 16

1977

4A: Plano 13, Port Neches-Groves 10
3A: Dickinson 40, Brownwood 28
2A: Wylie 22, Bellville 14
A: East Bernard 27, Seagraves 10
B: Wheeler 35, Lone Oak 13
Six-Man: May 42, Marathon 35

1978

4A: Houston Stratford 29, Plano 13
3A: Brownwood 21, Gainesville 12
2A: Sealy 42, Wylie 20
A: China Spring 42, Lexington 3
B: Union Hill 14, Wheeler 7
Six-Man: Cherokee 29, Cotton Center 27

1979

4A: Temple 28, Houston Memorial 6
3A: McKinney 20, Bay City 7
2A: Van 25, McGregor 0
A: Hull-Daisetta 28, China Spring 18
B: Wheeler 33, High Island 21
Six-Man: Milford 53, Cotton Center 34

1980

5A: Odessa Permian 28, Port Arthur Jefferson 19
4A: Huntsville 19, Paris 0
3A: Pittsburg 13, Van Vleck 2
2A: Pilot Point 0, Tidehaven 0 (co-champs)
A: Valley View 7, Rankin 6
Six-Man: Milford 38, Highland 16

1981

5A: Richardson Lake Highlands 19, Houston Yates 6
4A: Brownwood 14, Fort Bend Willowridge 9
3A: Cameron 26, Gilmer 3
2A: Pilot Point 32, Garrison 0
A: Bremond 12, Wink 9
Six-Man: Whitharal 56, Mullin 36

1982

5A: Beaumont West Brook 21, Hurst Bell 10
4A: Fort Bend Willowridge 22, Corsicana 17
3A: Refugio 22, Littlefield 21
2A: Eastland 28, East Bernard 6
A: Union Hill 13, Roscoe 0
Six-Man: Highland 60, Mullin 13

1983

5A: Converse Judson 25, Midland Lee 21
4A: Bay City 30, Lubbock Estacado 0
3A: Daingerfield 42, Sweeny 0
2A: Boyd 16, Groveton 8
A: Knox City 27, Bremond 20
Six-Man: Highland 67, Mozelle 50

1984

5A: Odessa Permian 21, Beaumont French 21
4A: Denison 27, Tomball 13
3A: Medina Valley 21, Daingerfield 13
2A: Groveton 38, Panhandle 7
A: Munday 13, Union Hill 0
Six-Man: Jayton 44, May 28

1985

5A: Houston Yates 37, Odessa Permian 0
4A: Sweetwater 17, Tomball 7
3A: Daingerfield 47, Cuero 22
2A: Electra 29, Groveton 13
A: Goldthwaite 24, Runge 7
Six-Man: Jayton 64, Christoval 14

1986

5A: Plano 24, La Marque 7
4A: West Orange-Stark 21, McKinney 9
3A: Jefferson 24, Cuero 0
2A: Shiner 18, Mart 0
A: Burkeville 33, Throckmorton 7
Six-Man: Fort Hancock 50, Christoval 36

1987

5A: Plano 28, Houston Stratford 21
4A: West Orange-Stark 17, Rockwall 7
3A: Cuero 14, McGregor 6
2A: Lorena 8, Refugio 7
A: Wheeler 23, Bremond 21
Six-Man: Lohn 58, Wellman 30

1988

5A: Converse Judson 1, Dallas Carter 0 (UIL ordered D. Carter to forfeit 31-14 victory)
4A: Paris 31, West Orange-Stark 13
3A: Southlake Carroll 42, Navasota 8
2A: Corrigan-Camden 35, Quanah 14
A: White Deer 14, Flatonia 13
Six-Man: Fort Hancock 76, Zephyr 30

1989

5A: Odessa Permian 28, Aldine 14
4A: Tyler Chapel Hill 14, A&M Consolidated 0
3A: Mexia 22, Vernon 21
2A: Groveton 20, Lorena 13
A: Thorndale 42, Sudan 24
Six-Man: Fort Hancock 48, Jayton 24

1990

Big 5A: Marshall 21, Converse Judson 19
Regular 5A: Aldine 27, Arlington Lamar 10
4A: Wilmer-Hutchins 19, Austin Westlake 7
3A: Vernon 41, Crockett 20
2A: Groveton 25, DeLeon 19
A: Bartlett 36, Munday 28
Six-Man: Fort Hancock 66, Christoval 17

1991

5A Div. I: Killeen 14, Fort Bend Dulles 10
5A Div. II: Odessa Permian 27, San Antonio Marshall 14
4A: A&M Consolidated 35, Carthage 16
3A: Groesbeck 7, Burnet 0
2A: Schulenburg 21, Albany 0
A: Memphis 21, Oakwood 14
Six-Man: Fort Hancock 64, Christoval 14

1992

5A Div. I: Converse Judson 52, Euless Trinity 0
5A Div. II: Temple 38, Houston Yates 20
4A: Waxahachie 28, A&M Consolidated 24
3A: Southlake Carroll 48, Coldspring 0
2A: Schulenburg 35, Goldthwaite 20
A: Bartlett 33, Sudan 26
Six-Man: Panther Creek 54, Fort Hancock 26

1993

5A Div. I: Converse Judson 36, Plano 13
5A Div. II: Lewisville 43, Aldine MacArthur 37
4A: Stephenville 26, La Marque 13
3A: Southlake Carroll 14, Cuero 6
2A: Goldthwaite 21, Omaha Pewitt 8
A: Sudan 54, Bremond 0
Six-Man: Panther Creek 56, Dell City 28

1994

5A Div. I: Plano 28, Katy 7
5A Div. II: Tyler John Tyler 35, Austin Westlake 24
4A: Stephenville 32, La Marque 17
3A: Sealy 36, Atlanta 15
2A: Goldthwaite 20, Schulenburg 16
A: Thorndale 36, Crawford 13
Six-Man: Amherst 30, Milford 20

1995

5A Div. I: Converse Judson 31, Odessa Permian 28
5A Div. II: San Antonio Roosevelt 17, Flower Mound Marcus 10
4A: La Marque 31, Denison 8
3A: Sealy 21, Commerce 20
2A: Celina 32, Alto 28
A: Thorndale 14, Roscoe 7
Six-Man: Amherst 72, Milford 48

1996

5A Div. I: Lewisville 58, Converse Judson 34
5A Div. II: Austin Westlake 55, Abilene Cooper 15
4A Div. I: Grapevine 34, Hays Consolidated 19
4A Div. II: La Marque 34, Denison 3
3A: Sealy 36, Tatum 27
2A: Iraan 14, Groveton 7
A: Windthorst 41, Tenaha 12
Six-Man: Gordon 51, Whitharal 50

1997

5A Div. I: Katy 24, Longview 3
5A Div. II: Flower Mound Marcus 59, Alief Hastings 20
4A Div. I: Texas City 37, Corsicana 34
4A Div. II: La Marque 17, Denison 0
3A: Sealy 28, Commerce 21
2A: Stanton 33, Rogers 7
A: Granger 40, Wheeler 0
Six-Man: Borden County 48, Panther Creek 16

1998

5A Div. I: Duncanville 24, Converse Judson 21
5A Div. II: Midland Lee 54, SA MacArthur 0
4A Div. I: Grapevine 22, Bay City 0
4A Div. II: Stephenville 34, La Marque 7
3A Div. I: Aledo 14, Cuero 7
3A Div. II: Newton 21, Daingerfield 0
2A Div. I: Omaha Pewitt 28, Brookshire Royal 26
2A Div. II: Celina 21, Elysian Fields 0
A: Tenaha 20, Wheeler 13
Six-Man: Trinidad 62, Borden County 16

1999

5A Div. I: Midland Lee 42, Aldine Eisenhower 21
5A Div. II: Garland 37, Katy 25
4A Div. I: Texas City 27, Hereford 14
4A Div. II: Stephenville 28, Port Neches-Groves 18
3A Div. I: Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 49, Mathis 6
3A Div. II: Commerce 17, Sealy 10
2A Div. I: Mart 40, Boyd 7
2A Div. II: Celina 21, Elysian Fields 7
A: Bartlett 35, Aspermont 6
Six-Man: Gordon 54, Groom 34

2000

5A Div. I: Midland Lee 33, Austin Westlake 21
5A Div. II: Katy 35, Tyler John Tyler 20
4A Div. I: Bay City 24, Denton Ryan 2
4A Div. II: Ennis 38, West-Orange Stark 24
3A Div. I: Gatesville 14, Abilene Wylie 10
3A Div. II: La Grange 20, Forney 17
2A Div. I: Sonora 27, Blanco 24
2A Div. II: Celina 21, Mart 17
A: Stratford 49, Burkeville 14
Six-Man: Panther Creek 42, Highland 36

2001

5A Div. I: Mesquite 14, San Antonio Taft 13
5A Div. II: Lufkin 38, Austin Westlake 24
4A Div. I: Denton Ryan 42, Smithson Valley 35 (OT)
4A Div. II: Ennis 21, Bay City 0
3A Div. I: Everman 25, Sinton 14
3A Div. II: Commerce 14, La Grange 11
2A Div. I: Blanco 16, Van Alstyne 0
2A Div. II: Celina 41, Garrison 35
A: Burkeville 27, Celeste 8
Six-Man: Whitharal 27, Richland Springs 20

2002

5A Div. I: Converse Judson 33, Midland 32
5A Div. II: Southlake Carroll 45, Smithson Valley 14
4A Div. I: Texarkana Texas 42, New Braunfels 11
4A Div. II: Denton Ryan 38, Brenham 8
3A Div. I: Everman 35, Burnet 14
3A Div. II: Bandera 27, Midland Greenwood 24 (2OT)
2A Div. I: Corrigan-Camden 33, Bangs 14
2A Div. II: Rosebud-Lott 34, Cisco 0
A: Petrolia 39, Celeste 18
Six-Man: Calvert 51, Sanderson 46

2003

5A Div. I: Galena Park North Shore 23, The Woodlands 7
5A Div. II: Katy 16, Southlake Carroll 15
4A Div. I: North Crowley 20, Bay City 6
4A Div. II: La Marque 43, Denton Ryan 35
3A Div. I: Gainesville 35, Burnet 24
3A Div. II: Atlanta 34, Marlin 0
2A Div. I: San Augustine 28, Tuscola Jim Ned 7
2A Div. II: Garrison 27, Bangs 0
A: Windthorst 28, Shiner 27
Six-Man: Strawn 67, Fort Davis 62

2004

5A Div. I: Tyler Lee 28, Spring Westfield 21
5A Div. II: Southlake Carroll 27, Smithson Valley 24
4A Div. I: Ennis 23, Marshall 21
4A Div. II: Kilgore 33, Dallas Lincoln 27
3A Div. I: Abilene Wylie 17, Cuero 14
3A Div. II: Gilmer 49, Jasper 47
2A Div. I: Boyd 17, Newton 14
2A Div. II: Crawford 28, Troup 14
A: Shiner 33, Stratford 19
Six-Man: Richland Springs 58, Turkey Valley 38

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2005

5A Div. I: Euless Trinity 28, Converse Judson 14
5A Div. II: Southlake Carroll 34, Katy 20
4A Div. I: Highland Park 59, Marshall 0
4A Div. II: Lewisville Hebron 28, CC Calallen 0
3A Div. I: Wimberley 21, Gainesville 7
3A Div. II: Tatum 38, Hutto 34
2A Div. I: Newton 28, Argyle 20
2A Div. II: Celina 28, Paul Pewitt 12
A: Stratford 21, Big Sandy 20
Six-Man: Throckmorton 68, Turkey Valley 22

2006

5A Div. I: Southlake Carroll 43, Austin Westlake 29
5A Div. II: Cedar Hill 51, Cypress Falls 17
4A Div. I: San Antonio Alamo Heights 40, Copperas Cove 28
4A Div. II: La Marque 34, Waco 14
3A Div. I: Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 35, Robinson 34
3A Div. II: Liberty Hill 22, Celina 19
2A Div. I: Tatum 32, Littlefield 14
2A Div. II: Mart 23, Cisco 13
1A Div. I: Alto 42, McCamey 13
1A Div. II: Chilton 20, Windthorst 10
6M Div. I: Richland Springs 78, Rule 58
6M Div. II: Vernon Northside 60, Jayton 41

2007

5A Div. I: Euless Trinity 13, Converse Judson 10
5A Div. II: Katy 28, Pflugerville 7
4A Div. I: Lamar Consolidated 20, Copperas Cove 14
4A Div. II: Lake Travis 36, Highland Park 34
3A Div. I: Liberty Hill 38, Gilmer 13
3A Div. II: Celina 21, China Spring 14
2A Div. I: Farmersville 27, Tatum 24 (OT)
2A Div. II: Canadian 40, Elysian Fields 25
1A Div. I: Alto 22, Seymour 0
1A Div. II: Munday 26, Bremond 6
6M Div. I: Richland Springs 98, Rule 54
6M Div. II: Motley County 44, Woodson 38

2008

5A Div. I: Allen 21, Fort Bend Hightower 14
5A Div. II: Katy 17, Wylie 3
4A Div. I: Lake Travis 48, Longview 23
4A Div. II: Sulphur Springs 69, Dayton 49
3A Div. I: Prosper 17, Waco La Vega 10
3A Div. II: Carthage 49, Celina 37
2A Div. I: Muleshoe 48, Kirbyville 26
2A Div. II: Daingerfield 28, Cisco 6
1A Div. I: Canadian 38, Mart 7
1A Div. II: Stratford 24, Cayuga 13
6M Div. I: Strawn 58, Follett 29
6M Div. II: Borden County 54, Woodson 8

2009

5A Div. I: Euless Trinity 41, Austin Westlake 38 (OT)
5A Div. II: Abilene 28, Katy 17
4A Div. I: Lake Travis 24, Longview 17
4A Div. II: Aledo 35, Brenham 21
3A Div. I: Gilmer 43, Abilene Wylie 26
3A Div. II: Carthage 13, Graham 12
2A Div. I: Pilot Point 35, Kirbyville 18
2A Div. II: Daingerfield 62, Bushland 14
1A Div. I: Goldthwaite 29, Canadian 25
1A Div. II: Cayuga 38, Albany 24
6M Div. I: Garden City 122, Strawn 88
6M Div. II: Borden County 28, Roscoe Highland 14

2010

5A Div. I: Pearland 28, Euless Trinity 24
5A Div. II: Cibola Steele 24, Denton Guyer 21
4A Div. I: Lake Travis 27, Denton Ryan 7
4A Div. II: Aledo 69, La Marque 34
3A Div. I: Henderson 28, Tyler Chapel Hill 21
3A Div. II: Carthage 47, Coldspring-Oakhurst 22
2A Div. I: Daingerfield 33, Cameron Yoe 27
2A Div. II: Idalou 20, Lexington 3
1A Div. I: Mart 28, Goldthwaite 7
1A Div. II: Falls City 32, Windthorst 7
6M Div. I: Garden City 82, Throckmorton 68
6M Div. II: Richland Springs 46, Sterling City 0

2011

5A Div. I: Southlake Carroll 36, Fort Bend Hightower 29
5A Div. II: Spring DeKaney 34, Schertz Cibola Steele 14
4A Div. I: Lake Travis 22, Hewitt Midway 7
4A Div. II: Aledo 49, Manvel 28
3A Div. I: Tyler Chapel Hill 20, Alvarado 19
3A Div. II: Wimberley 21, Argyle 14
2A Div. I: Melissa 28, Hempstead 15
2A Div. II: Refugio 36, Cisco 35
1A Div. I: Mason 62, Stamford 40
1A Div. II: Tenaha 52, Munday 28
6M Div. I: Throckmorton 48, Borden County 36
6M Div. II: Richland Springs 76, Motley County 28

2012

5A Div. I: Allen 35, Houston Lamar 21
5A Div. II: Katy 35, Cedar Hill 24
4A Div. I: Denton Guyer 48, Georgetown 37
4A Div. II: Cedar Park 17, Lancaster 7
3A Div. I: Stephenville 70, El Campo 35
3A Div. II: Navasota 39, Gilmer 3
2A Div. I: Cameron Yoe 38, Daingerfield 20
2A Div. II: East Bernard 56, Corsicana Mildred 14
1A Div. I: Stamford 35, Mart 28
1A Div. II: Munday 42, Tenaha 14
6M Div. I: Throckmorton 72, Abbott 30
6M Div. II: Richland Springs 60, Follett 14

2013

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Where Legends Begin



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PSJA.....	31-6A	San Antonio Roosevelt.....	27-6A	Thorndale.....	14-2A DI	Wylie East.....	9-6A
PSJA Memorial.....	15-5A DI	San Antonio Sam Houston.....	12-5A DI	Thrall.....	13-3A DI	Yoakum.....	12-3A DI
PSJA North.....	15-5A DI	San Antonio Sotomayor.....	28-6A	Three Rivers.....	16-2A DI	Yorktown.....	15-2A DI
PSJA Southwest.....	16-5A DI	San Antonio Southside.....	14-5A DI	Three Way.....	11-1A DI	Zapata.....	16-4A DI
Quannah.....	5-2A DI	San Antonio Southwest.....	14-5A DI	Throckmorton.....	9-1A DI	Zephyr.....	13-1A DI
Queen City.....	10-3A DI	San Antonio Southwest Legacy.....	14-5A DI	Tidehaven.....	14-3A DI		
Quintan Boles.....	9-2A DI	San Antonio Stevens.....	28-6A	Timpson.....	11-2A DI		
Quintan Ford.....	6-4A DI	San Antonio Taft.....	28-6A	Tioga.....	6-2A DI		
Quitman.....	9-3A DI	San Antonio Veterans.....	13-5A DI	Tolar.....	5-3A DI		
Ralls.....	2-2A DI	San Antonio Wagner.....	13-5A DI	Tom Bean.....	6-2A DI		
Ranger.....	13-1A DI	San Antonio Warren.....	28-6A	Tomball.....	15-6A		
Rankin.....	4-1A DI	San Antonio YMLA.....	15-3A DI	Tomball Memorial.....	15-6A		
Raymondville.....	16-3A DI	San Augustine.....	11-2A DI	Trent.....	6-1A DI		

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